

**Unselected Candidates Should Accept Decision - Rais  
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JASIN, Dec 4 (Bernama) -- Candidates not selected to contest in the coming general election should not feel hurt but to accept the decision, said Umno Supreme Council member Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim.

He said the length of service of a politician depended on the evaluation carried out.

"For those whose services are not extended, the decision should be recognised and respected, while for those whose services are extended, they should serve well and win the contested seat," he told reporters after opening Radio Television Malaysia (RTM) 2011 Sports Carnival at the Merlimau Polytechnic, here.

Rais was earlier asked to comment on the statement by Umno president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak that Barisan Nasional (BN) would be fielding more new faces among the younger generation who could meet the criteria of winnable candidates in the coming general election.

Najib at a news conference after the 62nd Umno General Assembly yesterday, said the move was to strengthen Umno as a dynamic party ready for change.

According to Rais, as envisaged by the prime minister, "winnable candidates are candidates with the potential to win and should comprise those who are acceptable to the community".

He said it was therefore important for their services to be recognised by the people for them to win in the coming general election.

Asked about certain leaders who had voiced their desire not to contest, Rais said it was up to the individuals.

"What is important is to accept the decision made by the party as we should not be evaluating ourselves," he said.

On the sports carnival which will end on Wednesday, Rais who is also Minister of Information, Communications and Culture, said the event involving 800 participants from throughout the country could help build friendship through sports.

The biennial sports event is the ninth since it started in 1995 and the 11 sports in competition are football, badminton, netball, volleyball, bowling, dart, chess, carrom, futsal, sepak takraw and ping-pong.

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