

Umno Polls: Distribution Of Candidate Registration Forms Smooth
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 14 (Bernama) -- The distribution of candidate registration forms for the Umno election at the branch, division and Supreme Council and its three wings nationwide, excluding Sarawak, went without a hitch Saturday.

Umno Executive Secretary Datuk Abd Rauf Yusoh said the party had prepared more than 4,000 forms for elections at the central level and 100,000 forms for 191 Umno divisions nationwide.

"The forms can be obtained starting today at counters opened at Level 4 Menara Dato Onn, Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) or the respective division offices until next Friday, before the date for submission of candidate nomination on Sept 21," he told reporters here today.

In KUALA LUMPUR, 31 individuals took forms to contest for Umno Supreme Council and executive committee (Exco) posts in the party's three wings until counters were closed at 5pm.

A total of 83 others took nomination forms for posts in the Wanita, Youth and Puteri movements.

Forms to contest Supreme Council seats and top posts in the party's three wings are only available at the Umno Headquarters here, while forms for posts at division level in the three wings can be obtained at state Umno headquarters.

Meanwhile, in SELANGOR, each of the 22 divisions were provided 500 forms from the 11,000 allocated, said State Umno secretary Datuk Johan Abd Aziz.

In MELAKA, State Umno secretary Datuk Akhbar Ali said about 3,000 forms were distributed to six Umno divisions in the state and candidates could obtain forms from their respective divisions.

"Distribution of forms to the divisions and from the divisions went well, no problems were reported today," he said.

Former Melaka Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam, who will be contesting for the Vice-President post and Masjid Tanah MP, Mas Ermieyati Samsudin, who will contest for Umno Puteri Chief, have taken their nomination forms from the Umno Headquarters in Kuala Lumpur.

In KEDAH, the State Umno prepared 5,000 registration forms for its members to fight for various posts in the party elections, said Kedah Umno secretary Datuk Othman Aziz.

He said 300 forms were distributed to each division, while 500 more were reserved should there be any problems.

Meanwhile, in KELANTAN, 7,000 forms were distributed of which 500 were given to each division and State Umno chairman Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said candidates needed to submit their forms by Sept 21 before 5pm.

"Forms can be obtained at the State Umno building and Umno division offices," he said.

In SABAH, a total of 12,500 candidate registration forms were given out to 25 Umno divisions in the state with each division allocated 500 forms, said State Umno secretary Datuk Yahya Hussin.

In KUALA TERENGGANU, the distribution of forms to candidates contesting in Umno polls at the state level went smoothly.

Terengganu Umno Election Committee chairman Datuk Muda Mamat said they distributed 500 forms to eight Umno divisions in the state to elect heads at their respective divisions.

"The Wanita, Youth and Puteri movements each got 100 forms while division branches were given 200 forms.

"Candidates who want to contest can obtain forms from Umno division offices, if there aren't enough, we have more at the Umno Liaison Office," he said when contacted by Bernama here today.

Muda said candidates vying at the division-level are required to submit their applications to the State Umno Liaison Office on Sept 21 between 8am to 5pm.

Meanwhile, in KANGAR, 1,500 registration forms were prepared by Perlis Umno for members contesting division posts.

Checks by Bernama found that hundreds of Umno members obtained their forms from the State Umno office here.

Perlis Umno secretary Datuk Mat Rawi Kassim, when contacted, said members interested in running for a post could take as many forms as they wanted.

In IPOH, a total of 12,000 forms were distributed to 24 divisions in Perak.

Among those who have collected their nomination forms were Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, who will be defending his Umno Vice-President post and Perak Women Development, Family, Community, Welfare and National Integration committee chairman Datuk Rusnah Kassim, who will contest for a seat in Wanita Umno's executive committee (Exco).

Perak Umno secretary Datuk Khusairi Talib said each division in the state is supplied with 500 nomination forms for various posts in the coming party election.

"There are some divisions which will distribute forms next week on weekdays from 8am to 5pm," he said when contacted by Bernama today.

Meanwhile, in SEREMBAN, the first day of candidate nomination form distribution also went smoothly.

State Umno chairman Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, who is also Negeri Sembilan Menteri Besar, said this reflected Umno was successful as a democratic party as all members had the opportunity to take part in the election.

"This is what the leadership wants, for the system of democracy to be opened wide so that

all our members can elect leaders who meet their aspirations," he told reporters after attending a Hari Raya open house at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Ampuan Durah, here today.

The 2013 Umno elections opens its curtains today with candidate registration forms being distributed to individuals interested in contesting for various posts before the forms are returned to the Umno Headquarters on Sept 21.

In PUTRAJAYA, about 100 forms were handed out to candidates for various posts in the Putrajaya division.

Putrajaya Umno Deputy Chief Datuk Khairudin Samad said prospective candidates should get their forms before Sept 21.

"They still have time to think about which post is more suitable for them in the coming election," he said when contacted.

In JOHOR BAHRU, State Umno secretary Datuk Ahmad Zahri Jamil said 13,000 forms were made available with each division supplied 500 forms.

Among the more famous names who took the forms were Deputy Transport Minister Datuk Ab Aziz Kaprawi who is vying for a Supreme Council (MT) seat for the very first time and also going for the Seri Gading Umno chief post; Deputy Umno Youth chief Datuk Razali Ibrahim (MT/Muar Umno chief post) and Dr Mohd Puad Zarkashi, who will be defending his MT seat and Batu Pahat Umno chief post.

This October, the election of the party's top posts including president and deputy president, will be made by 140,000 Umno members from 191 divisions.

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