

CRISIS IN DAP OVER CHOICE OF CANDIDATE

PENANG, Tues. — A crisis is brewing in the Penang DAP over the choice of a candidate for the Pengkalan Kota by-election.

Party sources said today the leaders are split into two factions, each pressuring the central committee to field its man.

One of the factions, said to have the support of 10 party branches, has even threatened to boycott the by-election if its nominee was not chosen to island.

This faction is being led by DAP State chairman Karpal Singh, with the support of MPs Seow Hun Khim and Wong Hoong Keat, and State Assemblymen Chin Nyok Soo and Ooi Ean Kwong.

They are supporting lawyer Goh Lim Eam as candidate.

The other fuction, headed by DAP State vice-chairman Peter Dason, wants company manager Teoh Teik Huat to fight the by-election. Mr Dason is said to have the blessings of DAP national organising secretary P. Patto.

The sources said Mr Goh, the DAP State secretary, and Mr Teoh, the State organising chairman are top on a list of five names the State committee has submitted to the central committee for consideration.

Others on the list are: State assistant secretary Ooi Soo Toe, Sungei Pinang branch secretary

Chai Bee Come, and Tanjong Bungah branch treasurer Lim Kean Beng.

The central committee is understood to have not decided on the candidate. But both the factions are strongly backing their respective man.

The sources said Mr Karpal Singh's faction seemed stronger, having the support of 10 of the 17

party branches in the State.

Branches which support his faction are Telok Bahang, Balik Pulau, Paya Terubong, Bagan Jermal, Macang Bubok, Bukit Mertajarn, Bukit Tengah, Nibong Tebal, Sungei Bakap and Tasek Glugor.

At the DAP State convention, opened by se-

cretary-general Lim Kit Siang here on Oct 12, representatives of these branches had strongly recommended that Mr Goh be fielded in Pengkalan Kota.

They felt Mr Goh was a better qualified candidate. He writes Chinese and speaks Mandarin, and will have more appeal to the Pengkalan

Kota voters who are mostly literate in the Chinese language.

On the other hand, Mr Dason's faction argued that Mr Teoh was a grass-roots person and more acceptable to the voters who are mainly workers, labourers and artisans.

Mr Teoh is also the chairman of the DAP Pengkalan Kota branch.

Bahan asal dari Arkib
Negara Malaysia