

Hamim man to challenge Dr Mahathir

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KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Prime Minister and Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is almost certain to be challenged by Hamim president Datuk Haji Sudin Wahab in the Kubang Pasu parliamentary constituency.

Datuk Haji Sudin, who was once a senior Pas official, announced in Alor Star today that he would take on Dr Mahathir.

He won the Langgar-Limbong State seat in 1974 when he contested under the Barisan Nasional's banner and again in 1978 under Pas'. But he failed in his attempt for the Pokok Sena State seat and Padang Terap parliamentary seat in the 1982 general election, losing to the BN.

His announcement was a surprise as Dr Mahathir had always been challenged by Pas since the 1978 general election. Dr Mahathir became the MP for Kubang Pasu in 1974 when he won uncontested.

With Semangat 46 and its Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah allies making so many threats about unseating Dr Mahathir, the general expectation was

that he would be challenged either by a strong Pas or Semangat 46 candidate.

Datuk Sudin, while contesting in his capacity as Hamim president, will use the Semangat 46 symbol. Similarly, the All-Malaysia Indian Progressive Front announced that it would use the DAP symbol.

Dr Mahathir, going for his sixth term, will file his nomination papers at the Kubang Pasu District Office in Jitra. He first entered Parliament in 1964 as member for Kota Star Selatan, but was defeated by former Pas president Haji Yusof Rawa in 1969. He re-entered Parliament in 1974.

There was no indication until late this evening whether Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba will be challenged in his Jasin parliamentary constituency in Malacca.

What promises to be a *battle royale* may develop in the fight between DAP secretary-general Mr Lim Kit Siang and Penang Chief Minister Dr Lim Chong Eu, while Mr P. Patto, DAP deputy secretary-general, will take on MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu for the Sungai Siput parliamentary seat.

Mr Lim is the incumbent Assemblyman for Kampung Kolam. He will recontest his Tanjung

parliamentary seat in Penang.

He said the DAP would contest seven parliamentary and 20 State seats in Penang.

Mr Patto will, however, defend his Sungei Pari State seat, which he won in the last general election.

Vice-chairman Karpal Singh will recontest in Jelutong.

A new DAP entrant in Penang is vice-chairman Ahmad Nor, who will go for the Bayan Baru parliamentary seat.

He said the party would contest in 11 parliamentary seats and 17 State seats in Perak.

All the 180 parliamentary seats and 351 State seats are expected to see contests. State elections are held only in Peninsular Malaysia.

All indications point to the two Semangat 46-inspired pacts — Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah (APU) and Gagasan Rakyat — taking on the BN in the peninsula.

So far, all BN component party chiefs have confirmed they will contest.

MCA president Datuk Seri Ling Liong Sik is defending the Labis parliamentary seat.

MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu is seeking

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ing re-election in Sungai Si-put.

Gerakan president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yalk will file his papers for the Bruas seat.

PBS president Datuk Seri Joseph Pairin Kittingan and Usno president Tun Datu Haji Mustapha Datu Harun are also in the election.

PBB president Tan Sri Haji Taib Mahmud is defending the Kota Samarahan seat while SUPP president Datuk Amar Stephen Yong, who is also the Minister of Science, Technology and Environment, will stand in the Bandar Kuching seat.

SNAP president Datuk Amar James Wong is the candidate for the Bintulu parliamentary seat.

Most Cabinet Ministers and all Menteri Besar and Chief Ministers are recontesting.

Those not contesting are Minister for Land and Regional Development Encik Kasitah Gadam, Welfare Services Minister Datuk Mustaffa Mohamed, Health Minister Ng Cheng Kiat, Deputy Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Kók Wee Kiat and Deputy Tourism and Culture Minister Datuk Ng Cheng Kual.

Also not in the line-up are Deputy Agriculture Minister Datuk S. Subramaniam, Deputy Human Resources Minister Datuk K. Pathamanaban, Parliamentary Secretary in the Land and Regional Development Ministry Adam Kadir and Dewan Rakyat Deputy Speakers Datuk Mohamed Amin Daud and D. P. Vijandran.

Semangat 46 is expected to contest 59 parliamentary and 143 State seats. Its president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah will be recontesting in Gua Musang.

Pas is likely to bid for 34 parliamentary and some 100 State seats.

Its president Haji Fadzil Nor is contesting in the Pendang parliamentary seat and the Bukit Raya State seat.

Pas deputy president Haji Hadi Awang is contesting the Marang parliamentary seat and defending his Ru Rendang constituency.