

BN' fielding Same candidates for Kelantan by-elections

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KOTA BARU, Sun. — The Barisan Nasional has named **Haji Wan Mohd Najib Wan Mohamed** and **Haji Nordin Salleh**, who were made to vacate the **Limbongan** and **Sungai Pinang** State seats, as its candidates in the by-elections.

Deputy State BN chairman Senator **Haji Annuar Musa**, who announced their names today, said they were chosen because they met the criteria set by the **Barisan**.

The Election Commission has set tomorrow for nomination day for both **by-elections** while polling is on Aug 24.

Senator **Haji Annuar** said the BN was confident that both candidates would serve the people well.

They could also perform effectively as opposition members in the Legislative Assembly, he added.

Haji Annuar said he received a telephone call from Umno president **Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad** this afternoon on the choice of **Haji Wan Najib** and **Haji Nordin**.

Haji Wan Mohd Najib and **Haji Nordin** lost their seats on July 3 when the Kelantan State Assembly voted to declare the two seats vacant when they joined Umno.

He said BN would give the two constituencies a special status by **concentrating** on bringing development there since the areas have been neglected by the Pas-led State Government.

Haji Annuar said that the Barisan election machinery was working well and the morale of the workers high.

The Barisan, he added, was able to name the candidates early as it did not face any problem in making a selection.

Haji Annuar also said the

Umno Supreme Council had agreed to appoint him the State election director while the **Pasir Puteh** Umno Division chief **Haji Jelani Jaafar** and **Tumpat** Division chief **Haji Mansor Salleh** have been named election directors for **Limbongan** and **Sungai Pinang** respectively.

Meanwhile, **Semangat 46** sources revealed that the party has picked acting **Semangat Pasir Puteh** Division chief **Haji Samat Mamat** and **Tumpat** division committee member **Haji**

Mahmud Yaakub as **Limbongan** and **Sungai Pinang** candidates respectively.

Although it was earlier speculated that acting **Semangat Pasir Puteh** deputy chief **Datuk Raja Mahmud Raja Mamat** and **Tumpat** division committee member **Haji Nordin Yaakub** would be named as candidates, party leaders chose **Haji Samat** and **Haji Mahmud** after a survey of the two constituencies.

It was learnt that party president **Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah** would make the official announcement of **Semangat** candidates at his residence tonight.

In **PORT KLANG** Prime Minister **Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad** said today the **Barisan Nasional** had a "50-50" chance of winning the **Limbongan** and **Sungai Pinang** State byelections.

He said the by-elections provided a good opportunity for the people of **Kelantan** to elect two Assemblymen who could give constructive criticisms in the State Assembly before decisions were adopted by the State Government.

"I believe that there should be an opposition in

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PM: We have even chance of winning

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Kelantan," **Dr Mahathir**, who is the **Kelantan Umno** liaison chief, said in response to questions from newsmen at the **Royal Selangor Yacht Club**.

He had earlier spent two hours on a cruise aboard the **Puteri Kayangan**, the new \$10-million luxury yacht, at the invitation of the Sultan of Selangor.

The Prime Minister and his wife, **Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Ali** were with the Sultan and his consort **Cik Puan Siti Aishah**.

The Prime Minister said last Tuesday that the **Kelantan State Assembly** needed an opposition to ensure that the people in the State were served effectively.

He also said the absence of an opposition in the **Pas-Semangat 46** dominated State Assembly in **Kelantan** had deprived the people of an opportunity to check the State Government's administration

To a question if there was any proposal for the Government to take up any land for development purposes following the passing of amendments to the **Land Acquisition Act**, **Dr Mahathir** said: "At the moment, I do not know."

Asked if there was a special committee formed to look into which land would be taken first, **Dr Mahathir** said if there was a need for such a committee, the Government would look into it.

To another question, **Dr Mahathir** said that there was no reason for Singapore to fear the joint exercise involving **Malaysian** and **Indonesian** troops, code-named "Malindo Darsasa 3AB", in **Johor**.

Later, **Dr Mahathir** and **Dr Siti Hasmah** attended a theatre performance at the **Malaysian Tourist Information Centre** in **Kuala Lumpur**.

The 10-minute **Malam Gelap Di Bukit Damansara**, produced and directed by actor-director **Rahim Razali**, had been playing since Aug 8. Tonight was its final performance.