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Shahidan-Candidates

MAHATHIR TO GET NAMES OF BN CANDIDATES NEXT WEEK

KANGAR, June 3 (Bernama) -- Names of potential candidates to be fielded by the Barisan Nasional (BN) for the Arau parliamentary seat will be submitted to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad next week.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim said several names would be shortlisted for consideration by Dr Mahathir, who is also BN chairman.

He said the BN would announce its candidate on June 23, the eve of the nomination day.

The Election Commission has fixed June 24 as nomination day for the by-election. In the event of a contest, polling will be held on July 4.

The seat fell vacant following the death of the Member of Parliament Kamaruddin Ahmad on May 25.

Shahidan, who is also Perlis BN chief, said the BN was confident of retaining the seat with a bigger majority.

In the 1995 general election, the late Kamaruddin, who contested on a BN ticket won the seat with a 6,929-vote majority.

He polled 16,266 votes defeating his Parti Semangat 46 challenger Saad @ Md Zain Hamzah who received 9,337 votes.

-- BERNAMA

AD TS