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Kasitah, Pandikar to let PM decide their fate

KOTA KINABALU, Sun. - Two Federal Ministers from Sabah will let Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad decide whether they should contest in the Nov 29 general election.

Minister of Land and Co-operative Development Senator Tan Sri Kasitah Gadam and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Senator Datuk Pandikar Amin Mulia said if chosen they were ready to contest.

Kasitah, who is Kinabalu Umno division chief, is tipped to be the Barisan Nasional candidate for the Kinabalu seat held by Parti Bersatu Sabah information chief Henrynus Amin.

Pandikar, who is Angkatan Keadilan Rakyat (Akar) president, is said to be among the potential BN candidates for the Kota Belud seat.

The incumbent Kota Belud MP, former Chief Minister Datuk Salleh Tun Said, does not intend to defend his seat.

The two Deputy Ministers from Sabah, Datuk Shafie Apdal (Housing and Local Government) and Datuk Railey Jeffrey (Works), are likely to defend their respective Semporna and Silam seats.

Meanwhile, United Pasok Momogun Kadazandusun Organisation (Upko) is eyeing the non-Muslim dominated constituencies.

Its president, former Chief Minister Tan Sri Bernard Dompok, was optimistic the Kadazadusuns and Muruts, known to be PBS die-hards, will rally behind the BN.

Dompok declined to comment on speculation that he would be contesting the Penampang seat.

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