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Nomination lists point to interesting times ahead

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Several interesting fights are looming after the release of nomination lists by contesting parties today.

An intriguing battle is expected in Permatang Pauh, Penang, between Barisan Nasional's Datuk Dr Ibrahim Saad and Datin Seri Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, president of Parti Keadilan Nasional and wife of former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, the incumbent.

Ibrahim, Deputy Transport Minister and Umno supreme council member, was a close friend of Anwar's and has been mentioned as a potential candidate for the seat.

Another interesting fight might be in Kubang Pasu, Kedah, where Pas is expected to field its Federal Territory commissioner Subky Latiff against BN chairman and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Parliamentary Opposition leader Lim Kit Siang has announced his move from Tanjung to Bukit Bendera, probably to dispute Gerakan president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik's claim that he had a Tanjung IV agenda.

Tanjungs I, II and III were codenames for Lim's DAP campaign to win the Penang State Government.

The DAP secretary-general is also contesting the Kebun Bunga State seat against Penang Island Municipal Council president Dr Teng Hock Nan who is State Gerakan secretary and chairman of its Bukit Bendera division.

It would be interesting to see how Lim's parliamentary rhetoric matches up against Dr Teng's local community service.

A battle is expected for Kuala Lumpur's Bukit Bintang seat which Wee Choo Keong won in 1995 on a DAP ticket, but lost when BN candidate Dr Lee Chong Meng's petition was allowed by the election court.

Wee and Dr Lee are expected to repeat the battle, the difference being that Wee is now the secretary-general of the Malaysian Democratic Party.

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