

18 NOV 1999  
BN-Selangor  
S'GOR BN DROPS 17 INCUMBENTS

SHAH ALAM, Nov 18 (Bernama) -- The Selangor Barisan Nasional (BN) has dropped 17 incumbents, including former Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib, from its list of candidates for the 10th general election.

The incumbent MPs dropped are Datuk Jamaluddin Adnan (Kuala Selangor), Mahbud Hashim (Sabak Bernam), G. Leelavathi (Kapar), Datuk M. Mahalingam (Subang) and Lim Kuo Phau (PJ Utara).

Apart from Muhammad who was Batang Kali assemblyman, the other incumbent assemblymen excluded are Datuk Abu Sujak Mahmud (Batu Tiga), Datuk Pius Martin (Bukit Lanjan), Datuk Onn Ismail (Selat Klang), Datuk Saidin Tamby (Paya Jaras), Gopala Krishnan (Sungai Tua), Datin Rakibah Abdul Manap (Gombak Setia), Shoib Md Silin (Beranang), Khoo Ooi Seng (Kampung Tunku), Mohd Pauzi Abdul Murad (Sungai Panjang), Abu Zahar Hashim (Taman Medan) and S. Rajakupal (Kota Raja).

The list is final as it has been endorsed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Selangor BN chairman Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar told a press conference here today.

Asked on the position of Muhammad, he said: "His name is not on the list, so he is not in."

Abu Hassan, who is also state Umno chief, said he was announcing the list ahead of nominations on Saturday to reduce speculation and anxiety among the grassroots.

This would also facilitate the candidates' preparations for the election, he said.

"The excessive speculation had made it difficult for me to sleep well, so today's announcement will put an end to predictions and all can now begin work," he said.

The state BN has maintained the formula for seat distribution among components, with Umno getting eight parliamentary and 30 state seats, MCA six parliament and 12 state, MIC three parliament and three state and Gerakan three state seats.

Those dropped were not at the press conference, except for Onn whose Selat Klang seat has been given to Zakaria Md Deros.

Onn, who was Selangor State Assembly Speaker, said he was not slighted for being dropped.

"I had been an elected representative for six terms, and Zakaria had helped me to get there, so now is the time for me to help him win the Selat Klang seat," he said.

He said all Umno members should abide by the decision of the party leadership and help ensure a BN victory in all seats.

Onn said he would be concentrating on business but would still contribute to the BN.

-- BERNAMA  
AZH/HS YBY