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PBS to contest 17 seats, Keadilan 4

PARTI Bersatu Sabah (PBS) will contest in 17 parliamentary seats including in the Federal Territory of Labuan while Parti Keadilan Nasional (Keadilan) in four constituencies in Sabah.

Its president Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan said the seats were divided between the two parties under an electoral understanding.

He declined to reveal names of PBS candidates and the constituencies, saying it would only be made known on nomination day tomorrow.

"Most of the names that you (the press) have speculated seem to be on target but for the final version... wait until tomorrow," he told reporters after launching PBS' manifesto in Kota Kinabalu yesterday. Pairin is expected to defend Keningau, Dr Maximus Ongkili (Bandau), Yunof Maringking (Tuaran), Dr Yee Moh Chai (Tanjung Aru) and Radin Malleh (Tenom).

Incumbent Kinabalu MP Henrynus Amin is expected to be dropped and would be replaced by a newcomer Jalimin Saliun, PBS Ranau division chief.

Other probable candidates are Datuk Kong Hong Ming (Tawau), Saidi Lampoh (Papar), A.K Aliudin (Beaufort), Saidil Simoi (Kota Belud), Zakaria Said (Marudu), Sak Cheong Yu (Sandakan), Denis Rantau (Beluran), Ali Latip Taha (Kinabatangan), Edmund Doudilim (Penampang), Johnny Goh (Gaya) and Raymond Teo (Labuan).

Asked to comment on his clash with BN candidate for Keningau Tan Sri Joseph Kurup, who is also Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah (PBRS) president, Pairin said: "It's up to the people in Keningau to decide."

The PBS manifesto, among others, said the party would continue to struggle to defend the rights of Sabah people.

It said the party also took a serious view on the presence of illegal immigrants in Sabah and the existence of phantom voters in the state electoral lists.

Meanwhile, DAP Tanjung Aru division chief Foo Chu Fung said the party would field candidates in Tanjung Aru and Penampang.

Foo will contest in Tanjung Aru while Ching Sing Fook in Penampang. Newly-registered Malaysian Democratic Party (MDP) had nominated its national treasurer Fung Ket Wing in Sandakan.

Meanwhile, in Kuala Lumpur, Pas Central Working Committee member Subky Latif will challenge Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in the Kubang Pasu parliamentary constituency.

Parti Keadilan Nasional (Keadilan) president Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail will stand in the Permatang Pauh parliamentary constituency which had been represented by her husband Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim for 16 years.

She face Deputy Transport Minister Datuk Dr Ibrahim Saad.

This was announced at a joint press conference by the opposition front yesterday attended by Dr Wan Azizah, DAP chairman Dr Chen Man Hin, DAP secretary general Lim Kit Siang, Pas vice president Dr Mustafa Ali and PRM president Syed Husin Ali and its secretary general Dr Sanusi Osman.

Syed Husin who was the spokesman for the opposition front said they had decided to face the BN candidates one-to-one in the general election this time.

The opposition parties have endorsed the allocation of seats among themselves.

DAP confirmed that they will stand in 38 parliamentary constituencies

including two in Sabah and seven in Sarawak. The party did not announce its list of candidates.

Pas will stand in 58 parliamentary constituencies in the peninsula and one in Sabah. The PRM will stand in five parliamentary constituencies and four state (Dun) seats.

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