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Najib: Pas bringing in outsiders to wrest control of Kedah constituencies

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - Pas has a systematic plan to take over Kedah by shifting voters from in and outside of the State into constituencies they want to take over, Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak said today.

Najib said this was discovered by the Umno state liaison committee after an investigation into the results of the Anak Bukit and Pendang by-elections.

"These voters are not even residents of Anak Bukit and Pendang. The kampung people do not know them. This has been done by Pas the party, and not specific individuals acting in their personal capacity."

Najib said there had been specific orders to Pas members and supporters to shift voters from 21 constituencies where they have majorities.

He said the plan could also involve other States.

Najib said Umno would be furnishing the Election Commission with the proof.

He said this had been going on for a while as the EC had received addresses of kampungs not homes, adding that this made it difficult for Umno to trace voters without complete addresses.

Najib said this at a Press conference after launching the Serdang Puteri Umno division.

On Saturday, Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad accused Pas of manipulating the electoral roll for the Pendang and Anak Bukit by-elections to bring in voters from other constituencies.

Pas dismissed the charge, saying Umno was making up excuses for losing the Anak Bukit state seat and winning the Pendang parliamentary seat by a slim majority.

Najib said Umno would lodge a protest with the Election Commission and would press for the EC to only allow residents with a house and connection to a specific constituency, the right to vote in that constituency.

Najib said that the EC as an organisation was not to be blamed as there might have been lower-level staff who had sympathised with the opposition and co-operated with them in shifting voters.

On whether he thought contests for top posts in the Puteri Umno elections in November were appropriate, as some Umno leaders had cautioned against it, he said this had to be allowed due to principles of democracy.