

Shahrizat: Najib will decide on my candidacy
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After challenging PKR president Wan Azizah Wan Ismail to resign, embattled Umno Wanita chief Shahrizat Abdul Jalil said her candidacy in the next general election lay in the hands of Umno president and Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak.

“As to my own fate, don't you worry. Let the party president decide my status when the time comes.

“Death and life are determined by Allah. As His servant, I believe and I submit myself to His decree and wisdom,” she said in her policy speech at the wing's annual general meeting this morning.

Most importantly, she stressed, is that the wing must strive as a united and disciplined team to win the next general election.

This part of the speech was written in the text distributed to media and delegates but not read out by her. However, Shahrizat (centre in photo) later told media that it can be published as part of her policy speech.

Met by reporters after the speech, Shahrizat stressed that she will restrain herself from insulting the opposition.

“When I was facing Allah at Mecca, I prayed that none will insult (PKR de facto leader) Anwar (Ibrahim), (PKR strategy director) Rafizi (Ramli), (PKR Wanita chief) Zuraidah (Kamaruddin) and (PKR secretary-general) Saifuddin (Nasution) and their families like they had done to me.”

The Women, Family and Community Development Minister has been the target of the opposition who claimed that her husband, Mohamad Salleh Ismail, who is the NFC's executive chairperson, had abused the RM250 million government soft loan.

Many political pundits were of the view that the scandal will affect Shahrizat's chance to make a comeback in the next general election after she was unexpectedly defeated by PKR vice-president Nurul Izzah Anwar in the 2008 election.

Instead of responding to the allegations made against NFC, Shahrizat chose to issue a battle cry this morning, claiming that the opposition's attack against her and her husband was aimed at the wing as a whole.

She launched a counterstrike by challenging Zuraidah to urge PKR president Wan Azizah Wan Ismail to step down.

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