

S'gor MB bullish on two-thirds majority win
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Though the state polls may not necessarily fall together with the general elections, Selangor Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim is brimming with confidence that Pakatan Rakyat would not only retain power but augment it with even more seats.

"The surveys we received show that Pakatan may win more seats than what we have now, which means we could even reach two-thirds majority," he told reporters in an interview with selected media.

According to Khalid, (right) if Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak is really confident of victory in the elections, the BN chairperson would have dissolved parliament in November last year or after the Chinese New Year as rumoured before.

"Of course, in Selangor there are hardcore Umno supporters, a small group of hardcore MCA supporters and a few MIC people.

"But surveys show that we scored a better rating, especially among those in the age group of 40 years and below," he said.

The well-known corporate figure-turned-politician said Selangor Pakatan is "very confident" of retaining 30 of its existing seats, hold on to six others, and "most likely" capture another 10.

One of the seats that Pakatan can "most likely" take is Kuala Kubu Baru, currently held by MCA Selangor state liaison committee secretary Wong Koon Mun.

However, Khalid stop himself in giving further predictions of winnable seats, jokingly saying "it will give people heart attacks."

Pakatan now controls 35 out of 56 seats in the Selangor state legislative assembly, after Port Klang assemblyman Badrul Hisham Abdullah quit PKR and turned BN-friendly independent in 2009.

The coalition needs at least three more seats to gain two-thirds majority control of the house, empowering it to amend the state constitution.

'BN crowds are outsiders'

Selangor, has been the focus heavy political attention since the 2008 polls with the BN pouring a lot of resources in the effort to regain control of the nation's wealthiest state.

Khalid downplayed the solid turnouts at recent BN campaign activities, saying most of the attendees were the regular crowd ferried by bus from outside.

"We carried out some inside surveys of the people who attended the PM and DPM's functions, they turned out to be the same crowd," he said.

He also reiterated that Selangor will not call for polls before June this year.

"I'm holding back the decision until the announcement from the federal government, but it's unlikely we will follow them before June," he said.

"If the general elections fall in May or June, then we may consider not participating (at the state level)," he added.

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