

GE13: Azmin predicts polling day on June 23

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PKR deputy president Azmin Ali, in a pep talk to Johor division leaders at the weekend, predicted that nomination day for the 13th general election would be June 10 and polling would be held 13 days later.

Speaking to some 70 state PKR chiefs in Muar, the party No 2 told the assembly that Umno could no longer regard Johor as their bastion.

"If the rakyat rise up, Umno will fall," asserted Azmin. "They fell in Selangor, they can also fall in Johor."

pkrcongress 301108 azmin aliHe urged division leaders to go to the ground in this final prelude to the election.

He exhorted them to project confidence that change will come to the state just as he said it did in Selangor where a change of government has led to an administration that has impacted the people's welfare favourably.

"Reformasi is the translation of ideas into reality," said Azmin.

He told the gathering the rakyat could sense that choosing Pakatan Rakyat means a change for the better.

"We have to project confidence that change will happen and will be for the better," said Azmin.

He urged Johor PKR to send a big contingent to the Bersih sit-down protest planned for Dataran Merdeka on April 28.

"We aim for a crowd of half a million at the protest. Johor must do its part by sending a big contingent," urged Azmin.

Two-hour briefing

He claimed PKR was now the "strongest link" in the opposition coalition which was why, he said, Umno was training plenty of its fire on the party.

anwarceramah in melaka 040112"After blazing their guns on (de facto leader) Anwar Ibrahim (left), they have now turned their sights on me with all sorts of accusations and calumnies," he said.

"But we have a clear conscience and are prepared to give as good as we take," said Azmin, in what was a rousing two-hour briefing to the gathering.

He said seat negotiations among Pakatan Rakyat component parties were continuing. He said PKR's overall stance was that seats it had won in 2008 were non-negotiable while those they had lost were subject to parley.

He cautioned party faithful to beware of "backstabbers" from within the fold who he predicted would be enticed by Umno to attack PKR in the final phase of the polls campaign.

"Immediate action will be taken against traitors who will be sacked summarily," warned Azmin.

He said party divisions can propose candidates but the final selection would be the result of consensus.

He said potential candidates are being vetted carefully unlike the last time when there was a dearth of them.

“We have more potentials this time which is why we are extra careful with the vetting process,” explained Azmin.

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