

PKR appoints professionals to strengthen GE13 lineup
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A retired air force brigadier-general, a corporate figure, an academician and a social media expert have been appointed to key positions in the opposition party, to gird itself in the face of an impending 13th general election.

The matter was announced by PKR president Wan Azizah Wan Ismail in a statement today.

Retired TUDM Brig-Gen Abdul Hadi Abdul Khattab was appointed to chair the PKR Security Committee. He was embroiled in a wrongful dismissal suit against the air force and the government in connection with the case of the missing F5E jet engines.

Koh King Kee, formerly the international trade senior general manager for Nam Fatt Corporation Berhad, was made the party's research coordinator tasked with looking into winning more seats in the coming polls.

Praba Ganesan, the former editor of an online news portal with experience in new media, was appointed as the party's media strategy manager.

No mention was made of what post former UIA law lecturer and constitutional law expert Abdul Aziz Bari (right) was appointed to, but it is well known that the party consulted him on various legal and constitutional issues, making him the prime candidate as legal adviser or other similar roles.

“PKR heartily welcomes the participation of these four professionals and will open its doors widely to any more who wants to join in our fight for justice, reform and a brighter future,” said Wan Azizah.

While it led Pakatan Rakyat to steal away five states from the BN and denied the ruling coalition its once unshakeable grip on a two-thirds majority, PKR has been accused of having substandard candidates and ‘bidan terjun’ in its line-up during the 2008 polls.

Indeed, most if not all opposition defectors who jumped ship to become BN-friendly independents are from PKR.

The party has promised that it will work hard to provide a better line-up, something which it may be working to achieve with this move to appoint and attract more professionals instead of its usual staple of ex-BN politicians and activists stock.