

PKR to take Bera, Labuan and Setiawangsa

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By Hazlan Zakaria

PKR today announced that the party is going to contest in the Bera, Labuan and Setiawangsa parliamentary seats, formerly contested by Pakatan ally PAS, in return for traditional seats that it had to give up to the Islamic party.

"In relation to what happened in Johor, Pahang and Perlis, some of our activists and members felt uneasy and have protested," said the opposition party's election director Azmin Ali at a press conference in Petaling Jaya today.

He said that PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim and he himself have informed the Islamic party's leadership of the protest.

However, he said that PKR has decided to accept PAS' decision in the spirit of Pakatan cooperation.

"To resolve this discussion... we have told PAS that PKR will contest in Bera, Labuan and Setiawangsa," he added.

Azmin explained that this was in return for PAS's intention to contest in the Temerloh and Kangar parliamentary seats, which he insists are traditional PKR seats.

The PKR deputy president however insisted that the discussions leading to this were cordial and went smoothly between itself and allies PAS and DAP, with 90 percent of Pakatan's seat negotiation already done and are to be finalised at a meeting of the presidential council tomorrow.

However, specific candidate lists will only be available at the earliest on Friday.

Asked about news that party president Wan Azizah Wan Ismail would be contesting in Selangor, Azmin asked reporters to wait for the full candidates list to come out and then see if her name was there.

There has been disgruntlement in PKR ranks of late as they seemed to be giving away seats to PAS and the DAP, with many on the ground grumbling.

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