

Anwar announces five Kedah parliamentary candidates

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by Susan Loone

PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim has announced five of the party's candidates for Kedah parliamentary seats.

They include Nor Azrina Surip @ Nurin Aina for Merbok, Dr Azman Ismail (Kuala Kedah), N Surendran (Padang Serai), Saifuddin Nasution Ismail (Kulim-Bandar Baru) and Johari Abdul (Sungai Petani).

Nor Azrina, Azman and Surendran, who is also the party's vice-president, are new faces in the line-up, whereas Johari is the incumbent for Sungai Petani.

While Nor Azrina, 38, is an engineer and a Sungai Petani municipal councillor, Azman, 52, is a medical doctor, and has been a member of PKR since 1998.

Saifuddin (left) - PKR's secretary-general - was the Machang MP and formerly the Lunas assemblyperson who won the seat against MIC candidate S Anthony Samy in a by-election in 2000.

According to Surendran, Anwar made the announcement at Padang Bandar Laguna, Merbok at about 11pm last night in front of a 10,000-strong crowd. He was on his last stop after a road show in Kedah, which included Kuala Perlis.

'We are prepared for the fight'

Surendran said Nor Azrina and Azman were long-time PKR supporters, but that the duo has not come out publicly before.

"We are definitely prepared for the fight. This is not only about Padang Serai, but the fight is also about taking over Putrajaya," he said, when asked about his candidacy in the state seat.

Padang Serai and Kulim-Bandar Baru were seats previously held by former PKR leaders N Gobalakrishnan and Zulkifli Noordin, who have since been sacked by the party.

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