

## **Wee 'saddened' as PAS fields outsider in Ayer Hitam**

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**By Kow Gah Chie**

Incumbent Ayer Hitam MP Wee Ka Siong is "saddened" because PAS Supporters Congress (PSC) chief Hu Pang Chow, 58, is expected to be chosen to contest the seat instead of a local party leader.

"They (local party leaders) have worked there for one to two years, and suddenly you see someone from Kelantan being fielded as a candidate. How would you feel?" Wee said on the sidelines of an event to hand out awards to top performing schools.

Wee (right), who is the caretaker deputy education minister, also claimed that local PAS leaders told him that they too were sad about this, but that he will "take care" of them as they were also his constituents.

"I read from the newspaper that Hu will be contesting - this is PAS' strategy; I feel sad, (as) the grassroots in Ayer Hitam have been long-prepared," he said.

"I've been asked by reporters (to comment) on Hu's statement that he will win, which I have not yet responded to. Never mind, I just wish him good luck," he added.

When queried about the possibility of backfire with PAS' strategy of fielding non-Malays or non-Muslims, Wee noted it might be that the party would need to respond to the Malay and Chinese voters of its strategy, and convince them well.

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