

Intra-Pakatan fights averted in Sabah

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Pakatan Rakyat has avoided going against each other for all 60 state seats and 25 parliamentary seats in Sabah.

PKR and DAP - both of which have laid claims on the Kapayan (state) and Tawau (parliamentary) seats - have compromised by taking a seat each.

Tawau will be contested by PKR's Kong Hong Ming, while Kapayan will be contested by DAP's Edwin Bosi (left).

Tuaran PKR chief Ansari Abdullah, who earlier pre-empted the central leadership by announcing seven MP candidates for PKR, has been dropped from the list.

In his place, is new Pakatan ally Angkatan Perubahan Sabah (APS) chief Wilfred Bumburing, who won the seat for BN in 2008 before he defected to become a Pakatan-friendly last year.

However, not all of the seven candidates announced by Ansari have been dropped from the list. For example, it is noted that state information chief Jonathan Yasin will be contesting Ranau.

Meanwhile, Sabah DAP chief Jimmy Wong will replace state party advisor Hiew King Cheu to defend Kota Kinabalu against BN's Chin Tek Ming.

Wong is the incumbent for the Sri Tanjong state seat, which will be defended by Chan Foong Hin.

BN will field new face Fung Len Fui of PBS.

Hiew will move to the state seat of Luyang, where he will face BN's Agnes Shim and incumbent Melanie Chia who is from SAPP.

Pakatan faces three-cornered fights

The announcements were made separately today by PKR deputy president Azmin Ali and DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng.

DAP will be contesting four parliamentary seats and eight state seats, whereas PKR

will contest 19 parliamentary seats and 43 state seats.

APS and Pertubuhan Pakatan Perubahan Sabah (PPPS) - led by incumbent Beaufort MP Lajim Ukin - will contest under PKR's banner.

APS will stand in five parliamentary seats and 12 state seats, while PPPS will go for four parliamentary seats and 11 state seats.

Pakatan may still face multi-corner fights from disaffected members, particularly from PKR, and local parties Sabah Progressive Party (SAPP) and Sabah State Reform Party (Star).

Meanwhile SAPP announced that its president Yong Teck Lee (left) will stand in his traditional seat of Likas, where he will face DAP's Wong Hun Jun and BN's Chin Su Yin, who represents the LDP.

Yong will be one of 41 SAPP state candidates.

The party's Chua Soon Bui will also defend the Tawau seat, where there will be at least a three-cornered fight involving BN and PKR.

Its deputy president Eric Majimbun will not defend Sepanggar, with the party fielding entrepreneur Chin Hon Kiong there instead. The former will move to the Inanam state seat.

SAPP's entrance will also see three-cornered fights in six other parliamentary seats including Kota Marudu, Kudat, Putatan and Sepanggar.

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