

Kota Damansara is ours to contest, says PKR

MalaysiaKini.com

April 24, 2013

By Hazlan Zakaria

PKR is entitled to contest the Kota Damansara state seat in the 13th general election because of 'past victory', said vice-president Tian Chua in pointing out that ally PAS can lay no such claim.

"Kota Damansara is under a PKR incumbent... It is status quo," Tian Chua told a press conference in Petaling Jaya today.

Senior leaders of both parties have discussed the matter and settled it, he said when asked to comment on the status of the seat.

In 2008, Parti Sosialis Malaysia (PSM) head Dr Mohd Nasir Hashim had won the seat on a PKR ticket. At that time, his party had yet to be registered.

Nasir will defend the seat under the PKR banner this time around, after a dispute was resolved over which party's logo was to be used following PSM's registration.

However during nominations last Saturday, PAS also fielded its own candidate for the state seat, leading to another impasse.

Kota Damansara is one of seven overlapping seats where both PKR and PAS have fielded candidates.

Yesterday PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim announced that the overlap in six of the seats were resolved after negotiations between the top guns of both parties.

PKR will contest the Labuan parliamentary seat as well as state seats of Pantl and Sungai Aceh,

PAS will be ceded three state seats in Terengganu - Bukit Besi, Kota Putera and Seberang Takir.

'Ideological differences between PAS, PSM'

However, Tian Chua (left) said, negotiations were still going on for the Kota Damansara seat. There were "ideological differences" between PAS and PSM that needed to be ironed out.

Meanwhile, at the same press conference, PKR interim disciplinary committee chief Zulkifli Omar said that all party members contesting as independents could be considered automatically sacked from the party.

This is despite the party having given them until 5pm tomorrow to publicly apologise, announce their withdrawal and send to the party in writing their undertaking not to campaign and contest in the election.

Zulkifli said that as of now, more than 20 ordinary members and two branch leaders have been found to be standing as independent candidates.

Tian Chua added that disciplinary action would also be taken against those canvassing for independent candidates as well as those campaigning for other parties and against Pakatan or PKR candidates.

Copyright © 1999-2012 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd

Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/227853>