

Najib 'imprinted' in hearts, minds of M'sians

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DAY 11 What's happening during the election campaigns around the country today? Quotable quotes, planned events and unplanned incidents as they take place.

3.50pm - Putrajaya: The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) is investigating several reports relating to the spread of 'false' text-messages.

It has warned those involved, including those 'sponsoring such activities', to stop doing so or face the consequences.

The MCMC is monitoring complaints received as well as cases referred by the police in recent weeks.

"Do not believe everything that you read online. The public is urged to verify the information before forming any views or conclusions," it says in a statement.

3.10pm - Jementah: Johor DAP chief Dr Boo Cheng Hau says Pakatan Rakyat is confident of securing half of its targeted five parliamentary and 20 state seats in Johor.

Three of these are in northern Johor, including Bakri which the coalition is defending.

"The next few days are critical. Anwar (Ibrahim) and Lim Kit Siang are going to south Johor and Lim Guan Eng is coming to north Johor to give us a boost," Boo (right) told journalists after helping DAP's Jementah candidate Tan Chee Choon to campaign in the constituency in Segamat.

Aside from riding on the momentum from these heavyweights, Boo says DAP's strategy in the run-up to the polls is also to move into the semi-urban areas such as Segamat, Labis, Bakri, Muar and Ledang in order to meet its target.

"These areas are important because their votes have stronger weightage compared to the cities where three votes is only equivalent to one vote in the semi-urban or rural areas," he says.

3.00pm - Seremban: Malay language daily Sinar Harian has reported that PAS'

candidate for the Lenggeng state seat Zulkefly

Mohammad Omar (left) will continue to contest although he has since been warded into a hospital due to a stroke and high blood pressure.

PAS commissioner Mohd Taufek Abdul Ghani says that the state PAS, along with the candidate's representatives and the election machinery, will be taking over the campaigning activities in the area.

"On the doctor's advice, he (Zulkefly) will have to rest in the hospital for four to five days to ensure that his health has truly improved," Taufek is quoted as saying in the Sinar Harian report.

2.13pm - Shah Alam: Pakatan Rakyat's act of pulling down posters of BN chairperson Najib Abdul Razak in Selangor will not erase him from the hearts of voters as his presence is strong in the psyche of Malaysians.

This, argues state BN deputy election director Mohd Zin Mohamed is because his image is firmly "imprinted" in their hearts and minds, through his fulfilled promises and the many products of 1Malaysia.

"This is the action of a desperate Pakatan when they see that Najib has been successfully attracting voters to BN.

"They fear the big influence and impact that Najib enjoys in Selangor."

2.00pm - Repah, Tampin: If the number of posters put up of a candidate is any indication of his or her chances of winning, then

the Independent candidate for the Repah state seat is the 'winner' in the areas near the Giant hypermarket in the Tampin town.

Posters for Fadzil Abu Bakar with a pink background and the 'car' symbol is spotted decorating a roundabout and both sides of the road.

These overshadow even those of the BN candidate Yap Seong Fook.

12.24pm - Selangor: Echoing Lee Li Yew in Rawang, MCA deputy president Liow Tiong Lai says in a statement that the Malays and Indians have already returned to BN.

"As such, the Chinese voters should think carefully and allow MCA to continue to be

in the government. This is so that we can ensure that the government will continue to assist the Chinese community and MCA can continue to uphold the rights and interests of the Chinese.

"MCA is naturally concerned about our success or failure in this election, but we are more concerned about the Chinese community because if we lose, the Chinese will also lose their voice in government.

"MCA has always been entrusted with looking after and defending Chinese rights. Thus, we believe that if we are given the mandate, MCA will work harder and produce better results."

Liow is defending the Bentong parliamentary seat in Pahang.

12.10pm - Pokok Sena: Caretaker PM Najib Abdul Razak urged the people to vote for "galah panjangnya (his long pole)", referring to his aide Shahlan Ismail, who is also BN's Pokok Sena parliament seat candidate.

He said if selected, it will be easy for Shahlan, being the latter's own political secretary, to "hack him" to obtain allocations for the constituency.

"(Shahlan) is a long pole, then he can hack me. Ask for allocation. Never mind, such pacts in order to win, Insya-Allah we will bring change to Kedah," Najib says.

12.05pm - Shah Alam: Caretaker Selangor Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim has invited BN chairperson Najib Abdul Razak to an open debate tomorrow on Pakatan Rakyat's achievements during its five-year administration of the state.

The Selangor Pakatan chief said, in a statement, that he has accepted Najib's challenge to publish the state's 'report card' and also offered to debate the matter, but has yet to receive a reply.

The debate is to be held at 10.30am in the compound of Restoran Iskandar in Pandamaran Jaya, Port Klang.

Khalid also urged the caretaker PM to bring with him BN's MB candidates for the state, so that the people can get to know them and assess their ability to govern Selangor.

12.00pm - Kuching: DAP has held a demonstration outside the Kuching South City Council yesterday to protest the removal of its billboards on Mongolian translator Altantuya Shaariibuu, which were brought down by officers from the council and the

Election Commission four days ago.

The protest led by Chong Chieng Jen, the incumbent Bandar Kuching parliamentarian, was joined by approximately 100 people who wore the red DAP 'Ubah' T-shirts, See Hua Daily News reported today.

The group members held up posters of holding Altantuya and and shouted, "We want justice" as they marched toward city council building from its car park.

"This is obviously double standard. Why weren't the offensive billboards erected by Sarawak United People's Party taken down?" Chong asked.

The mayor of Kuching South, James Chan, denied the city council has ordered removal of the DAP billboards, saying the jurisdiction was with the Election Commission.

DAP has erected the Altantuya billboards in few strategic locations in Kuching to welcome BN chairman Najib Abdul Razak, who campaigned in Sarawak last Friday and Saturday.

11.53am - Rawang: MCA Youth treasurer and the BN candidate for Rawang, Lee Li Yew, has urged Chinese Malaysians to support candidates from MCA if they want the community represented in the cabinet.

Lee says caretaker premier Najib Abdul Razak has pledged to find an alternative to the Central Reinforcement project so that the high tension cables will not pass through Rawang.

Najib has also announced the construction of a police station at Bandar Country Homes, along with SMJK Chung Ling and a Tamil school.

Lee accuses Pakatan Rakyat of spreading politics of hate and says the coalition will not be able to address the needs of a multiracial country.

It will also not be able to protect the Chinese community's welfare because the Buku Jingga does not address such needs, he adds.

11.30am - Kuala Lumpur: DAP veteran Lim Kit Siang has urged BN chairperson Najib Abdul Razak to take responsibility for the alleged molest of two students by BN supporters during his visit to Southern University College last night (below).

Even though the two alleged victims did not blame the caretaker premier, Lim,

however, claimed the act was carried out by "mat rempits" who accompanied Najib.

"If he (Najib) can't control his supporters? How could he become prime minister?"

11.00am - Kuala Lumpur: DAP veteran leader Lim Kit Siang announces that the party's incumbent Aulong state assemblyperson Yew Tian Hoe has withdrawn from contesting as an Independent. Yew says he is doing this voluntarily.

9.00am - Sibul: An employer in Sibul tells his staff that if BN's Lanang parliamentary candidate Tiong Thai King wins, there will be a gift for all the employees.

"Our company promises, if Datuk Tiong becomes YB, the company will give little presents," the employer, identified only as Lau, said to applause from his staff.

The announcement was made in front of Tiong, the incumbent, during his visit to a restaurant operated by Lau, who also owns a food court and supermarket in Sibul.

Tiong later told Malaysiakini that the announcement could encourage the staff, but he was not made aware of it earlier and that he was not behind the announcement either.

Malaysiakini was politely chased out of the event by a man wearing a BN T-shirt, who said it was a closed-door event.

In fact, DAP's Lanang candidate Alice Lau Kiong Yieng (left) told a 1,000-strong crowd at a ceramah in Sungai Merah last night that she has received information there would be vote-buying at the restaurant.

There is no vote-buying nor corruption, Tiong said, denying any vote buying in the restaurant.