

Selangor PAS wants Kota D'sara candidate punished

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By Koh Jun Lin

Selangor PAS is to lodge a report to the PAS central leadership against PAS Kota Damansara candidate Ridzual Ismail and his supporters for refusing to obey an order to pull out of the recently concluded general election.

NONEAs a result of the disobedience, Selangor PAS deputy commissioner Khalid Samad (seated far right) said, the votes were split and the official Pakatan Rakyat candidate, PSM's Dr Mohd Nasir Hashim, lost his bid for re-election.

"The leadership will would investigate this and take appropriate action," Khalid told a press conference today.

Both PAS and PKR fielded candidates in Kota Damansara on nomination day, with Nasir contesting under the PKR ticket.

PAS later told Ridzual to back down and the party secretary-general Mustafa Ali himself went to campaign for Nasir and informed the people that Nasir was the official Pakatan Rakyat candidate.

Despite this, Ridzual and his supporters continued to campaign, right up to polling day and the result was a BN victory, despite it getting less than half the votes cast.

Nasir obtained 14,860 while Ridzuan took 7,312 votes in the election. Together, their votes would have been enough to overcome BN candidate Halimaton Saadiah Bohan's 16,387 votes.

Khalid said this incident, along with similar episodes in Semenyih and Sungai Aceh, would be taken as a lesson.

"It is a lesson to us and any party not to be arrogant, (and) thinking that he could win single-handedly.

"In the end, we have betrayed the people's wishes, and the people of Kota Damansara who have rejected BN now have to live under an Umno assembly person simply because we had a misstep," he said.

He added that Pakatan Rakyat was only able to score a major victory in Selangor because the three parties worked together while in government and campaigned for

each other during the election.

Meanwhile, the Selangor PKR chief told the same press conference that he appreciates Khalid's explanation and does not blame PAS for the mistake.

"Instead, PKR with PAS and DAP will move forward together and not look back for the interests of the people of Selangor," he said.

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