

S'gor MB confirms Anwar to run for Kajang

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PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim will contest in the recently vacated Kajang state seat, the party confirmed today.

Selangor Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim announced the decision at PKR headquarters today, but said he will continue his duties as MB "for the time being".

PKR's Lee Chin Cheh had yesterday tendered his resignation as the Kajang assemblyperson, following a meeting with Anwar, who is also opposition leader.

This added fire to speculation that a by-election is created to enable Anwar to eventually take over the menteri besar position, replacing Abdul Khalid.

The speculation was, however, rubbished by Anwar yesterday.

Asked whether he was personally in agreement with the decision to have Anwar contest the seat, Abdul Khalid said that if he did not agree, "I would not be here."

Both Anwar and Abdul Khalid, who attended the press conference together, did not outrightly dismiss the possibility of Anwar taking over as MB, merely saying that their focus at the moment was on retaining the Kajang seat.

Anwar (left) said he had "no choice" but to contest since the PKR political bureau and Pakatan Rakyat together had decided that he should contest the seat.

"We are doing this so that we can further optimise our performance in the state," Anwar said, while admitting that PKR and its Pakatan allies will have some explaining to do to Kajang voters as to why they need to vote another assemblyperson in just over six months since the general election.

"Of course, we will need to explain to them and they will need to know. The MB and Azmin Ali (Selangor PKR leader) will help us in this," he said.

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