

Hulu S'gor candidate: Race not a factor, says Khalid
Malaysiakini.com
April 11, 2010

Selangor PKR liaison chief Abdul Khalid Ibrahim said PKR does not give importance to race when selecting its candidate for the Hulu Selangor parliamentary by-election on Apr 25.

pkrgathering in hulu selangor 260310 khalid ibrahimHe said PKR would merely choose the "best" candidate who would be dedicated, hardworking and strive for the betterment of the people and voters of the constituency.

"No need to politicise the issue (of race) when selecting the best candidate for an election. This is a political matter. The issue (of race) shouldn't be seen as a "sandiwara politik pilihan raya" (an election political drama).

"We in PKR do not look at that aspect (race) but instead look for an eligible candidate who can win the hearts and minds of the voters in Hulu Selangor," Khalid told reporters after launching the Selangor-level People's Tuition Programme, in Shah Alam, today.

Khalid was responding to a statement made by Umno information chief Ahmad Maslan in a Malay daily which challenged PKR to field a non-Malay candidate for the Hulu Selangor by-election in an attempt to give fairness to all races in that constituency.

Voters in Hulu Selangor will go to the polls on Apr 25 to elect a new member of parliament following the death of the incumbent, Zainal Abidin Ahmad of PKR on Mar 25. BN will field a candidate from the MIC in the by-election, nomination for which is on April 17.

Khalid, who is Selangor Menteri Besar, said Pakatan Rakyat (PR) leaders would meet in the next two days to decide on the "right" candidate, expected to be announced on Tuesday night.

On another note, Khalid said the state government spent RM3.4 million each year for the People's Tuition Programme. About 5,600 pupils in the state benefited from the programme every year.

- Bernama

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