

Day 4 - SAPP tries to rah-rah Batu Sapi villagers
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FREE BY-ELECTIONS What's happening in the by-election campaigns in the parliamentary constituency of Batu Sapi and the Galas state seat? Quotable quotes, planned events and unplanned incidences as they occur in P185 and N45.

8.30am (Batu Sapi): The campaign hots up with posters, flags, banner and billboards mushrooming around the constituency, in particular the main street Jalan Batu Sapi.

NONEThey belong mostly to BN, with SAPP in tow and PKR and its candidate Ansari Abdullah's posters hardly visible.

Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak hogs the billboards with tried and tested slogans.

9am (Batu Sapi): A Najib poster at the roundabout along Jln Batu Sapi is splashed with red paint, and is removed a few hours later.

SAPP workers also complain of their posters being vandalised, with Batu Sapi candidate Yong Teck Lee's images defaced with goatees and the word 'babi' (pig).

9.50am (Galas): Bukit Gantang MP Nizar Jamaluddin meets the residents of Kampung Baru and is greeted by a lion dance.

10.10am (Galas): PAS alleges that BN is up to pengundi hantu (phantom voters) tricks again as it is desperate.

Kota Bharu MP Wan Abdul Rahim Wan Abdullah also said PAS has no deal with Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah (Ku Li) on oil royalty.

"The reason we don't use it yet is because not many PAS leaders can debate that issue; once leaders are (confident) to talk about that issue we may raise it," he said.

NONE10.30am (Galas): Ku Li (in white) officiates a Futsal programme with BN candidate Abdul Aziz Yusof in Sg Terai, one of the Malay majority areas in Galas, giving out 700 tickets to the Malaysia Cup finals in Kuala Lumpur tomorrow night.

The Gua Musang MP however stresses that the freebies are only for party workers, and that it was not a form of vote buying. Meanwhile, many locals have complained that they cannot get their hands on the tickets.

With the state gripped by football fever, the campaigning is expected to take a back seat.

Kota Bharu MP Wan Abdul Rahim Wan Abdullah says at the daily press briefing, "We focus on 'bola' first, then after we win, we focus back on the election."

NONE11.17am (Batu Sapi): Pakatan national leaders blitz the campaign with PKR strategy director Tian Chua, PAS vice-president Mahfuz Omar, Selangor MB Khalid Ibrahim, DAP's Serdang MP Teo Nie Ching and colleague Segambut MP Lim Lip Eng from the Peninsula joining Sarawak's Wong Ho Leng for a press conference at the PKR operations centre.

They launch leaflets in Chinese on Ansari's track record in defending Sabah squatters in court cases and successfully stopping state demolition of their quarters.

11am (Galas): PAS candidate Dr Zulkefli and Kelantan MB Nik Aziz Nik Mat visit the Gua Musang hospital.

12pm (Batu Sapi): SAPP candidate Yong visits two island villages and at one of them coaches residents of Kg Sanghai how to cheer for his party.

The villagers, who listen to Yong's 20-minute election pitch, are visibly bewildered by the cheerleading exercise and exchange glances and stay reserved.

The 30-odd present are eventually coaxed into participating after some pleading from Yong.

1pm: (Galas): BN's Abdul Aziz attends Friday prayers at Masjid Tengku Muhammad Faiz Petra, Gua Musang.

2pm (Galas): Ku Li will hold a meet and greet session with the residents of Taman Wangi.

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