

**Azmin leading, Zaid not far behind**  
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The contest for PKR's number two post of deputy-president is emerging to be a two-horse race between vice-president Azmin Ali and Pakatan Rakyat coordinator Zaid Ibrahim as they alternate between going head-to-head and taking the lead in this intense direct elections exercise.

NONEAfter reports emerged yesterday that Azmin had overtaken the former law minister by more than 700 votes, PKR headquarters this morning released on its website the official tally of the elections up to Oct 31, according to which Zaid has netted 3,683 votes to Azmin's 3,051.

This number turned out to be erroneous.

Party secretary-general Saifuddin Nasution verified this afternoon that it was Azmin that was in the lead with 3,051 votes to Zaid's 2,529.

This means Azmin is leading by 522 votes for the deputy-presidential contest after 68 divisions met since last Friday for their members to vote for the party's top leadership posts as well as those of its Wanita and Youth wings.

The third candidate for deputy president - Perak PKR chief Mustaffa Kamil Ayub - has netted a total of 1,149 votes.

NONEIn a suprising turn of events, PKR's strategy chief and Batu MP Tian Chua has taken the lead in the contest for the party's four vice-presidential seats with 3,621, ahead of his nearest competitor Nurul Izzah Anwar by 78 votes.

Coming in third after the Lembah Pantai member of parliament is Kuantan MP Fuziah Salleh, who has netted 2,895 votes.

Fuziah is followed closely by Penang deputy chief minister Mansor Othman, who has 2,852, and Padang Serai MP N Gobalakrishnan who has obtained 2,080 votes.

azlanOthers in the vice-presidential race are as follows:

Dr Xavier Jayakumar 1,679  
R Sivarasa 1,553  
Suresh Kumar Ramachandran 1,237  
Yahya Sahri 1,178  
Baru Bian 659  
Ansari Abdullah 646  
Jonson Chong 626  
Yusmadi Yusoff 615  
S Manikavasagam 492  
Dominique Ng 284  
Saiman Marjuki 166  
James Hj Ghani 106

A total of 132 individuals are also contesting the PKR supreme council's 20 seats. In the

party's Youth wing, incumbent chief Shamsul Iskandar Akin is seeing his challenger Badrul Hisham Shaharin overtaking him with a lead of 104 votes.

Chegubard - as Badrul Hisham is popularly known as - has chalked up 1,133 votes against Shamsul Iskandar's 1,029.

For PKR Youth vice-chief, Khairul Anuar leads with 1,214 votes against Chang Lih Kang, who has netted 833 votes.

In the Wanita wing, its incumbent chief Zuraida Kamaruddin is in the lead with 1,160 votes as against her challengers Animah Ferrar (408) and Suraya Sudin (403).

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