

BN will not give Anwar an easy run in by-election
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Chan Kok Leong

Barisan Nasional will not give PKR leader Anwar Ibrahim an easy run by not placing a candidate at the Permatang Pauh by election.
MCPX

najib hilton hotel pc 010808 01Deputy Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak said that calls made by two Umno leaders against placing BN candidates were made in their personal capacity.

Kelantan Umno liaison committee chairperson Annuar Musa and Deputy Health Minister Dr Abdul Latiff Ahmad had suggested that the coalition does not contest in Permatang Pauh.

Abdul Latiff had said: "If the leadership insists on contesting (in Permatang Pauh), I suggest we put an accounts supervisor or a local divisional member.

"There is support for Barisan but not enough," he was quoted as saying in today's newspapers.

If BN was to give a walkover, the election commission would also save money, Abdul Latiff reasoned.

"It's not about only winning or losing but BN must present a choice to the Permatang Pauh voters," said Najib after closing the Umno Wanita "Meet the Leadership" meeting today.

He said that the BN supreme council will discuss at its meeting on Wednesday on a suitable candidate for the seat.

The seat fell vacant following Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail's decision to relinquish it to allow her husband to contest.

Shahrizat endorsed

wanita umno pak lah meet rafidah shahrizat event 040808 05Meanwhile, Najib said he endorsed the transfer of power plan by Wanita chief Rafidah Aziz to her deputy Sharizat Abdul Jalil by June 2009.

The Umno deputy president said the transfer also reflected the maturity and understanding within the women's wing.

"This move will ensure that the wing continues to be the backbone of Umno," said Najib.

He also voiced his confidence that Shahrizat was the right person to take over from Rafidah next year.