

'Najib wants Isa to contest' letter surfaces
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Umno secretary-general Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor has denied that he wrote a letter to the Negeri Sembilan Umno liaison committee to ask that Mohd Isa Abdul Samad be picked as the BN's candidate for the Bagan Pinang by-election.

He said a letter to the effect which bore the letterhead of his office that was making the rounds in the constituency was false and the latest dirty tactic used by the opposition to cause rifts between Umno's headquarters, Negeri Sembilan Umno liaison committee and Teluk Kemang Umno division.

Among the contents of the letter, which now has been uploaded on the Umno-Online website was a paragraph that read: "Pihak Majlis Tertinggi amat dukacita memaklumkan bahawa calon yang dicadangkan oleh Badan Perhubungan Umno Negeri Sembilan terpaksa ditolak kerana presiden parti mahukan Mohd Isa Abdul Samad sebagai calon PRK N31 Bagan Pinang."

(Umno's supreme council deeply regrets to inform that the candidate proposed by the Negeri Sembilan Umno liaison committee has to be rejected because the party president wants Mohd Isa Abdul Samad to be the candidate for the Bagan Pinang by-election).

"I never issued such a letter, this is a lie. It is a forgery by the opposition to try and cause disunity in Umno specifically in Bagan Pinang. This is a desperate tactic by them because they know Bagan Pinang is an Umno stronghold," he explained.

Vows to lodge police report

Tengku Adnan said he came to know about the letter after being told by party workers who were monitoring the opposition's activities in the constituency.

He added that he would lodge a police report on the matter if the opposition did not stop circulating the letter.

The by-election, polling of which will be on Oct 11, will see a straight fight between the BN's Tan Sri Mohd Isa Abdul Samad, who is also former Negeri Sembilan menteri besar, and Zulkefly Mohamad Omar, the Negeri Sembilan PAS commissioner.

Nomination was today.

It is called following the death of its assemblyman Azman Mohammad Noor, of the BN, on Sept 4.

- *Bernama*

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