

Galas folk ready to cash in on polls windfall
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GUA MUSANG - The Galas by-election has sent house rental and food prices spiralling out of control as local residents try to make a fast buck.

A check by *Bernama* found that restaurants and food stalls had appeared overnight as many consider Galas by-election a windfall just like Manek Urai last year.

Resident Ismail Dollah, 43, said house rental had risen from RM200 monthly to an astonishing RM10,000 since last week.

"A bungalow is going for RM15,000 for the by-election period. House rental keeps rising by the hour and will be given to the highest bidder," he said here Wednesday.

The Election Commission (SPR) Wednesday announced that nomination for Galas by-election will be held on Oct 26 with polling on Nov 4.

Galas state seat fell vacant following the death of PAS' Chek Hashim Sulaima, 46, from colon cancer on Sept 27.

Bernama also found that the price of hotel room had also risen from RM150 to RM200 daily.

Trader Norizan Ibrahim, 45, said Galas by-election provides local residents the opportunity to make good business as it would be swarmed by outsiders.

"There is an urgent need for more restaurants and food stalls as the existing ones cannot cope with the expected crowd," she added.

Gua Musang is a transit town to traders as it is strategically located at the exit route to Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, Cameron Highlands and Kota Bharu.

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