

Tenang by-election date to be announced on Friday
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PUTRAJAYA - The Election Commission (EC) will announce on Friday the nomination and polling dates for a by-election in the Tenang state constituency in Johor, EC Secretary Kamaruddin Mohamed Baria said Monday.

He said the EC received notice on the vacancy of the seat from the speaker of the Johor state legislative assembly last Friday.

"The EC will hold a special meeting to discuss the Tenang by-election on Dec 24 at the EC headquarters in Putrajaya," he said in a statement here.

Sulaiman Taha, the assemblyman for Tenang, which is located in the Labis parliamentary constituency, died on Dec 17 from complications arising from diabetes.

Sulaiman had defended the seat in the last general election, in 2008, by beating PAS candidate Mohd Saim Siran with a majority of 2,492 votes.

Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR) adviser Anwar Ibrahim said Sunday that PAS has been given the chance to contest Tenang seat in Johor on behalf of Pakatan Rakyat (PR).

"The meeting just now decided to give it to PAS. PR leaders will help the candidate wrest the seat from Barisan Nasional (BN)," he told reporters at the PR convention.

Anwar accepted advice from DAP chairman Karpal Singh who wanted him to be more careful when choosing candidates for the next general election.

He assured Karpal that only those with integrity would be picked as candidates to avoid past mistakes. - Bernama