

BN Retains Merlimau
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JASIN -- The Barisan Nasional (BN) retained the Merlimau seat when its candidate Roslan Ahmad defeated PAS' Yuhaizad Abdullah by a majority of 3,643 votes in the by-election in the state constituency today.

Roslan polled 5,962 votes while Yuhaizah garnered 2,319 votes.

In the 2008 election, the late Mohamad Hidhir Abu Hassan of the BN obtained a majority of 2,154 votes in defeating Jasme Tompong of PAS.

The result was announced by Returning Officer Roslan Eusoff at Dewan Platinum, Merlimau Polytechnic at 8.15pm.

Present to celebrate Roslan's victory were Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin, Melaka Chief Minister Mohd Ali Rustam and Umno vice president Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, who is also Defence Minister.

As soon as the result was announced, Roslan, 44, who was attired in a blue striped shirt, dark pants and songkok, was carried by his supporters who shouted out "hidup BN" (long live BN), "1Malaysia", and "Merlimau DUN Ku Sayang" (We love Merlimau).

The polling process went smoothly with the final voter turnout recorded at 78.76 per cent of 10,679 registered voters. The turnout in 2008 was 76.18 per cent.

Roslan, is a Jasin Umno committee member while Yuhaizad, 38, is Melaka PAS Youth deputy chief.

The by-election was called following the the death of Mohamad Hidhir on Jan 20.

(Bernama)

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