

**BN Victory In Kerdau**  
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TEMERLOH -- Barisan Nasional (BN) retained the Kerdau state seat when its candidate Syed Ibrahim Syed Ahmad defeated PAS candidate Hassanuddin Salim with a majority of 2,724 votes today.

The majoriti obtained by Syed Ibrahim, 44, was higher compared to the majority received by the late Zaharuddin Abu Kassim in the 2008 general election.

It was the third defeat suffered by Hassanuddin, 43, who is the Pahang PAS information chief, after losing in the 2004 general election (Sanggang state seat then) and in the 2008 general election.

Syed Ibrahim, who is also the Kuala Krau Umno division vice-head, polled 5,060 votes while Hassanuddin had 2,336.

The by-election result was announced by the Returning Officer, Tarif Abdul Rahman at the Dewan Tun Razak, Temerloh Municipal Council at about 8.20pm.

Ninety ballot papers were rejected.

A total of 7,486 voters or 83.20 per cent of the 8,999 registered voters had cast their votes.

In the 2008 general election, the seat was won by the late Zaharuddin from the BN, with a majority of 1,615 votes.

Syed Ibrahim, when met here, said he was touched when the result was announced because a heavy responsibility was being placed on his shoulders.

"I was touched because everyone from the grassroots right up to the top leaders had helped me in the campaign, and I will serve the people in the best possible manner," he said.

Syed Ibrahim said the first thing that he would look into seriously was the welfare and daily needs of the constituents in Kerdau which were certainly lacking.

"Many people in the villages are facing hardship and their welfare should be looked into. I will serve them at all levels after this," he said.

Among those present at the announcement of the result were Pahang Menteri Besar Adnan Yaakob, Umno secretary-general Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor, Umno vice-president Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, Umno supreme council member Ismail Sabri Yaakob, and MIC vice-president S K Devamany.

(Bernama)

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