

**DAP - PKR Seat Talks Crumble**  
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SIBU -- The hope of one-to-one contests between the PKR-DAP-PAS opposition pact and local-based Sarawak National Party (SNAP) with the Barisan Nasional in the 10th Sarawak state election does not seem likely as the latest talks between DAP and PKR over overlapping seats has failed.

Sarawak DAP secretary Chong Chieng Jen said the party had asked for 18 seats out of 71 up for grabs , which are Padungan, Pending, Batu Lintang, Batu Kawa, Kota Sentosa, Simanggang, Balai Ringin, Bukit Assek, Pelawan, Dudong, Bawang Assan, Repok, Meradong, Kidurong, Senadin, Piasau, Pujut and Bukit Kota.

"During the meeting, we conceded Padungan and Senadin to PKR with the hope that we can ensure one-to-one contests but PKR is still insisting that DAP contest in only 13 seats," he said when contacted by Bernama.

He said despite DAP making the concession, PKR still insisted that DAP give up on Batu Kawah, Dudong and Balai Ringin.

"We cannot agree to PKR's request for three more seats despite us conceding two to them. It's bad news. Things are not good," said Chong, who is also Kota Sentosa state assemblyman and Member of Parliament for Bandar Kuching.

Chong said with the latest development, the party may have "no choice" but to consider going it alone without ruling out the possibility of multiple corner contests and the opposition parties contesting against each other.

However, he did not rule out some last minute effort being initiated to resolve the issue, although saying that he was not optimistic about it.

In the 2006 state election, DAP and PKR candidates contested against each in Padungan despite facing Lily Yong Lee Lee, the incumbent from Barisan Nasional.

Dominic Ng Kim Ho from PKR won the seat with a majority of 1,417 votes.

The nomination for the Sarawak election is April 6 while polling on April 16.

(Bernama)

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