

SHAHANAAZ SHER HABIB AND A. LETCHUMANAN AT PKR'S NATIONAL ANNUAL CONGRESS

# PKR aiming for 180 seats

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## Party to talk to DAP and PAS on seat allocation formula

**SEREMBAN:** Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR) is looking at contesting in 60 Parliamentary and 120 state seats in the coming general election.

The party's election bureau director Azmin Ali said PKR would hold discussions with DAP next week, and with PAS a week later to come up with a new formula on seat allocation in the opposition electoral pact.

"It does not necessarily have to be that in a 80% Chinese majority area, the seat will be contested by DAP. It does not mean either that in a 70% Malay majority area it has to be PAS," he said.

He said the party was scrutinis-

ing potential candidates with good track record to be fielded in those seats.

De facto leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said the opposition would still maintain its pact of going for straight fights with Barisan Nasional in all seats.

"While we seek what is our right and what we see as just, let us also ensure that our cooperation with DAP and PAS remains good," he said in his winding up speech.

At a press conference later, he said the 60 Parliamentary and 120 state seats had been short-listed by the party but were subject to negotiations.

"There are some overlapping seats. We will present our views on why we should contest and they will give theirs and we will negotiate," he said.

Azmin told reporters that for the past two general elections, PKR was allocated the racially mixed seats to contest in and "generally these are harder to win."

He, however, said that the mood had changed recently in Chinese areas and some urban Indian areas.

"As a multiracial party, we want a Chinese majority seat and some Malay seats too.

"We need to have our Chinese leaders and our Malay leaders to

represent these area," he added.

He said PKR would negotiate with DAP particularly for seats in Penang and Perak and with PAS for seats in Kedah, Selangor, Kelantan and Terengganu.

Sabah, he said, was also one of PKR's frontline states as it planned to wrest the state from Barisan in the next general election.

On Sabah PKR's new leader Dr Jeffrey Kitingan, who has had a reputation of jumping from party to party, Azmin said he believed that the Sabah leader was committed to the reform agenda and "we have to see why they move from one party to another."