

'Muhyiddin had insufficient statutory declarations'

KUALA LUMPUR: Perikatan Nasional chairman Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yasin never had a sufficient number of statutory declarations (SD) from MPs who pledged their support for him to become prime minister after the 15th general election in November 2022, said Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

He said of the 115 SD Muhyiddin claimed to have collected, 10 MPs had signed two SD, with one supporting Perikatan Nasional and the other supporting Barisan Nasional.

The Umno president said its secretary-general Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki is a witness to the matter.

"The actual number of SD that Muhyiddin had was only 105 and that is not enough (of majority support in Parliament) to form a new government," said Ahmad Zahid at a press

conference after visiting the Media Centre provided for members of the press covering the Umno General Assembly.

He said each Barisan Nasional MP at the time signed three documents in front of an oath commissioner, with a video recording as evidence.

He also said the first document was to give full authority to the Barisan Nasional chairman to form a government, create a mixed government or take any action towards the formation of a government.

"The second document was to declare that the seat they won belonged to the party and not to any individual and the third document was to declare that if they leave or support another party, they must pay a penalty of RM100 million."

No a separate matter, he said Johor Umno

has submitted to the party leadership a list of candidates to be fielded in the Mahkota state by-election slated for next month.

He added that the party leadership would give fair consideration to each candidate before naming the selected one.

"We are using the WALI approach, namely winnability, acceptability and likeability. Those will be the main criteria for the selection of our candidate.

"Whether old or young, man or woman, all factors will be given fair consideration."

The Election Commission has set the polling for the Mahkota by-election in Johor on Sept 28, nomination on Sept 14 and early voting on Sept 24.

The by-election is being called following the death of incumbent Datuk Sharifah Azizah Syed Zain on Aug 2. - Bernama