

**Sabah PKR ends 10-month crisis with new chief**  
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**By Clara Chooi**

KOTA KINABALU, Oct 14 — PKR has reinstated Ahmad Thamrin Mohd Jaini to head its Sabah chapter, effectively dissolving the 11-member leadership council appointed earlier this year to end a fractious leadership squabble.

Thamrin, who was removed from the post in early January and replaced by Pajudin Noordin who has since defected to Umno, resumed duties as Sabah PKR chief on Wednesday.

In a statement here yesterday, PKR president Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail (picture) said Thamrin's appointment was made with the blessings of Sabah PKR's top leaders who agreed the latter was the "best candidate" to lead the state chapter.

"His appointment is an important decision for Sabah PKR and was made after a consultation process with state leaders. On a whole, Sabah PKR leaders agreed he is the best candidate to continue expanding and shoring up voter support towards the party in Sabah, as well as to prepare for the coming 13th general election," she said.

Wan Azizah also announced the dissolution of the 11-member presidential council helmed by her and said Thamrin will soon prepare his own state leadership lineup.

The Malaysian Insider understands the lineup will include one post for state deputy chief, three vice-chairman posts, a secretary, a treasurer and an information chief.

Only candidates for the posts of deputy chief and the three vice-chairmen require negotiation and approval from PKR's national leadership.

Sabah PKR is viewed as one of the party's most troubled state chapters following a spate of desertions earlier this year and the fractious leadership tussle that forced intervention by national leaders.

Thamrin was replaced by Pajudin on January 9, a move meant to end a longstanding faction war between the former and Ansari Abdullah, a division chief and PKR's candidate for the Batu Sapi by-election last year.

But Pajudin's appointment was rejected by a majority of state division chiefs who later mounted a movement calling for the party's national leadership to intervene.

The 11-member leadership council, believed to be the party's first, was then formed on January 27 to resolve the crisis and has been running the party's state operations for nearly nine months now.

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