

High chance PAS may field ex-BN leaders in Election 2013, says Hadi
Malaysian Insider
February 2, 2013

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 2 — PAS may list former rivals from the ruling Barisan Nasional (BN) bloc to run for both federal and state seats on the PAS ticket in Election 2013, its president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang has said.

But Hadi (**picture**) insisted the opposition party does not lack candidates to replace its maverick lawmaker Nasharudin Mat Isa and those who have left the Islamist party since Election 2008.

“It is not the time yet for me to make the announcement but there is a high probability that former BN leaders, who were ministers and deputy ministers, will be listed as candidates to contest parliamentary and state seats,” the Marang MP was reported as saying by the *New Straits Times* (NST) today.

Nasharudin, who was once the party’s deputy president, was booted out of the powerful syura council last month just ahead of the 13th general election due to be called by April and which PAS, a senior partner in the Pakatan Rakyat (PR) opposition pact, is hoping will form the new federal government.

Hadi said Nasharudin was still a member of the party but whether he will be fielded as a candidate in the polls will be decided by Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat, who is Kelantan menteri besar and the state’s PAS commissioner.

“Whether Nasharudin will remain as a candidate will be decided by Allah, even I do not know what is in store for me. That is why I would like to advise him to pray that Allah softens up Nik Aziz’s heart to list him as a candidate.

“Don’t ask me why he was dropped from the syura council, but if you ask me on whether he will be a candidate, that is my answer. Pray to Allah. The power to list the candidates (in Kelantan) is in Nik Aziz’s hands,” Hadi was reported as saying by *NST*.

The English-language paper also reported that Nasharudin, or Nasha as he is popularly called in the Malay press, will only be sacked from the party if he ran for election under another party’s banner.

“Malacca BN has shown great interest in Nasharudin. Maybe he will be listed as a candidate by Malacca Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Mohd Rustam. That was why Ali challenged PAS to sack him,” Hadi was quoted as saying.

Nasharudin’s dismissal from the opposition party’s religious advisory council has drawn much interest from political rivals in Umno, the BN coalition’s mainstay, including Datuk Seri Najib Razak, who had remarked that the Bachok MP got kicked out only after his Gaza trip with the prime minister.

PAS’s syura council was reported to have dismissed Nasharudin over his frequent absenteeism from council meetings and for breaching the party’s stand.

Hakcipta © 2013 The Malaysian Insider

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/high-chance-pas-may-field-ex-bn-leaders-in-election-2013-says-hadi/>