

**Nomination For GE13 Opens Nationwide  
Bernama  
20 April, 2013**

KUALA LUMPUR, April 20 (Bernama) -- Nomination of candidates for the 13th General Election (GE13) opened at 9 am today throughout the country.

A total of 222 nomination centres had been set up to receive the nomination papers of the candidates vying for the 222 parliamentary and 505 state seats in the election, polling for which is on May 5.

Nomination will be accepted for one hour from 9 am, with the prospective candidates handing in their nomination form, the statutory declaration form and a deposit of RM10,000 for a parliamentary seat and RM5,000 for a state seat.

The returning officer will check the forms and declare the candidates eligible for contest in the respective constituencies.

In GE13, for the first time, there is no longer the objection period and withdrawal of nomination, as per Regulation 9 of the Election (Conduct of Elections) Regulations 1981 (Amendment) (No. 2) 2012 which came into effect on April 27 last year. As such, the nomination process is expected to be completed early.

District offices, municipal council offices, district council offices, community halls and schools have been used as the nomination centres.

The Meteorological Department has forecast scattered rain in the morning in the coastal areas of Labuan, Johor, Melaka, Penang and Sabah.

The weather in Kedah, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang and Selangor is forecast to be overcast while thunderstorms are expected here and there in Perak and Sarawak.

Kuala Lumpur, Perlis, Putrajaya, Kelantan and Terengganu are forecast to have fine weather in the morning.

The EC has set April 30 for early voting and May 5 for the usual polling, leaving the candidates with 15 days from today to campaign. A total of 13,268,002 people are eligible to vote in this general election, of whom 275,341 are early voters.

Nomination in Sabah's Lahad Datu, scene of an armed intrusion by Sulu militants and a follow-up government military offensive in March, is being held as usual.

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Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=943638>