

**Penang DAP fields seven new faces**  
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**By Opalyn Mok**

GEORGE TOWN, April 19 — Penang DAP is fielding seven new faces for the general election, three of whom are women, when it announced the list of candidates for the 26 seats it is contesting in the state — seven parliamentary and 19 state seats.

The new faces for the parliamentary seats are Sim Chee Keong (Bukit Mertajam), Zairil Khir Johari (Bukit Bendera) and P. Kasthuriraani (Batu Kawan).

For the state seats, the new faces are former municipal councillor Soon Lip Chee (Jawi), Yap Soo Huey (Pulau Tikus), Teh Lai Heng (Komtar) and Lim Siew Khim (Sungai Pinang).

Only four incumbents were dropped from the candidates list.

Incumbent Bukit Mertajam MP Chong Eng, who has held the seat since 1999, has been moved to the Padang Lallang state seat where the incumbent Tan Cheong Heng had been dropped.

Incumbent Komtar state assemblyman Ng Wei Aik will be contesting the Tanjung parliamentary seat, vacated by Chow Kon Yeow who will however be defending his Padang Kota state seat.

In Ng's place, former councillor Teh will be contesting the seat.

The new women candidates are Yap, Siew Khim and Kasthuriraani while incumbent Pulau Tikus state assemblyman Koay Teng Hai and incumbent Sungai Pinang state assemblyman Koid Teng Guan have both been dropped.

Incumbent Batu Kawan MP Prof P. Ramasamy has given up his Batu Kawan parliamentary seat but will defend his Perai state seat.

Incumbent Jawi state assemblyman Tan Beng Huat has also been dropped and is replaced by Soon.

DAP secretary-general and Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng, the only exception to the party's one-seat, one-candidate ruling, will defend both his Bagan parliamentary and Air Putih state seats.

The other parliamentary and state seats that remained status quo are Jelutong (Jeff Ooi), Bukit Gelugor (Karpal Singh), Sungai Puyu (Phee Boon Poh), Bagan Jermal (Lim Hock Seng), Bagan Dalam (A. Tanasekharan), Berapit (Ong Kok Fook), Tanjung Bungah (Teh Yee Cheu), Pengkalan Kota (Lau Keng Ee), Datuk Keramat (Jagdeep Singh Deo), Batu Lanchang (Law Heng Kiang), Seri Delima (RSN Rayer), Air Itam (Wong Hon Wai) and Paya Terubong (Yeoh Soon Him).

Earlier in his speech, Penang DAP chairman Chow thanked the four dropped candidates for their service in the past five years.

"We believe that you will continue to support the party even though you are not fielded this time," he said.

The candidates list was announced amidst uncertainty on whether the candidates will be able to contest under the party's rocket symbol due to the non-recognition of the election of the party's office-bearers by the Registrar of Societies (RoS).

Guan Eng said the move to stop the party from using its rocket symbol for the polls, all DAP candidates will still be representing the "rocket party".

"If we are not allowed to use the rocket logo, we will use the moon logo under PAS or the eye logo under PKR so this will make me not only as the first Penang DAP chief minister but also the first Penang PAS chief minister and first Penang PKR chief minister," he said.

Guan Eng said the final outcome of this issue with the RoS will be known by 3pm.

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