

EC Invites 18 Foreign Observers, 1,200 Local Observers For Election
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 4 (Bernama) -- Eighteen international observers from Asia, including representatives from the Asean Secretariat, who were invited by the Election Commission (EC) for the 13th general election, were brought around to see preparations at the polling centres around the city today.

EC deputy chairman Datuk Wan Ahmad Wan Omar said the 18 observers comprise six representatives each from Indonesia and Thailand, and two each from Myanmar, Cambodia and the Asean Secretariat.

Previously, these countries had invited Malaysian EC officers to their country as observers during their election, he told reporters after a briefing for the election observers by the EC, here today.

Wan Ahmad said they will also monitor the voting process in several Federal Territory parliamentary areas such as Gombak, Titiwangsa and Setiawangsa, as well as vote tallying in Putrajaya tomorrow.

Besides monitoring the voting process, the EC also hopes the observers and local personnel could exchange ideas on how to improve future general elections, he added.

"So far we find that these observers are amazed at how our 13th general election can be carried out in a day and results known as early as 7.30pm," he said.

Wan Ahmad said 1,200 local observers consisting of 17 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are also involved in the general election.

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