

**Tough Fight Between BN And PKR-DAP-PAS Pact In Selangor**  
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SHAH ALAM, May 4 (Bernama) -- Extra focus will be given to Selangor this Sunday as tough fight awaits the Barisan Nasional (BN) in its bid to wrestle back the 'jewel of the crown' state after it fell in the hands of the PKR-DAP-PAS pact in 2008.

BN's campaigns to win back the state and the three-party alliance's campaigns to defend it, have actually begun right after the 12th general election on March 8, 2008.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, who is also Selangor BN chairman, and his deputy, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, often went to the ground to meet with the people in the 'Jelajah Nurani Rakyat - Love Selangor Trust BN' programme and visit hot constituencies such as in Selayang, Shah Alam, Kuala Selangor, Klang, Kota Raja, Subang and Kuala Langat to gain support for the BN.

Najib's direct approach and personal touch in Selangor, as well as the participation of his Mandarin speaking son, Norashman, in his campaign in the Chinese-majority areas in Sekinchan, are hoped to have convinced the people to vote for BN on May 5.

Many efforts have been taken by Selangor BN to win the hearts of the people, including by introducing a special manifesto with seven core focus areas, namely for Selangor People's Wellbeing, Selangor People's Community, Selangor 2020, Selangor Housing, Selangor Permata Education, Selangor New Economy Eco-system and Green Selangor.

Besides, Najib has also made several additional promises, including to build wider roads in the industrial small and medium industrial area in Kampung Baru Sungai Buloh, a new hospital and markets in Kapar and a new Klang Utara police headquarters.

Selangor BN has also introduced Selangor People Service Centre (PAKAR) to hear the grievances and complaints of the people and set up Radio Selangor Barisan Nasional that can be listened to via the Internet and smartphones.

A few surprises were seen on the nomination day in Selangor, especially as Selangor DAP chairman Teresa Kok and state executive councilor Ronnie Liu were dropped as candidates for the Selangor state elections.

BN also sprang a surprise when it named Perkasa Vice President Datuk Zulkifli Noordin as the 'friend of BN' candidate to contest for the Shah Alam parliamentary seat.

Zulkifli will face his former ally in PAS, Khalid Abdul Samad.

The result of the contest between the 80s dangdut singer, Herman Tino, whose real name is Masrun Tamsi, and BN's candidate Datuk Seri Noh Omar and PAS' Mohammad Rashdi Deraman for the Tanjung Karang parliamentary seat is also expected to attract many attention.

Another surprise came from PKR when Menteri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim decided to contest in Port Klang and abandoned his Ijok state seat, which he won in 2008.

To many, the decision not only confirmed that he personally believed that the allegedly abandoned voters will not help him defend the Ijok state seat, but will also give the advantage to BN to wrestle back the state seat.

Apart from efforts made by its election machinery, BN's campaigns in Ijok in particular, and in Selangor in general, have been assisted by several pro-BN non-governmental organisations, such as Perkasa, Gagasan Anti-Penyelewengan Selangor led by its president Hamidzon Khairuddin and Pertubuhan Jalur Tiga under the leadership of Datuk Dr Hasan Mohamed Ali, who is also former Selangor PAS commissioner.

Many political observers are in the opinion that the BN's hard work and determination will help the coalition to take over the state with simple majority by winning at least 29 out of the 56 contested seats.

In the last polls, BN only managed to secure 20 state seats.

Now, it all depends on the voters. The polling centres for the 13th general election are expected to be opened simultaneously nationwide at 8am tomorrow.

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