

GE13: 128 Candidates Lost Deposit In Contesting Parliamentary Seats
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 6 (Bernama) -- In the contest for parliamentary seats in Sunday's 13th General Election, 128 candidates lost their deposit after they secured less than one per cent of the overall votes cast, which is the highest number recorded in the country's general elections.

Of the 579 candidates in the fray, Independents fared the worst with 75 candidates having their deposit forfeited.

Former Wanita UMNO vice president Datuk Kamalia Ibrahim and 80s singer Herman Tino were among them.

Kamalia who caused ripples by contesting the Kuala Kangsar seat as an independent after a parting of ways with UMNO, was only able to secure 447 out of 28,282 votes cast in a three-cornered fight.

Herman whose real name is Masrun Tamsi, fared even worse, obtaining only 340 votes out of an overall of 37,768 votes in a three-cornered fight for the Tanjong Karang seat.

The deposit to contest a parliamentary seat is RM10,000 while for state seats its is RM5,000.

In KUALA TERENGGANU, the oldest candidate in GE13, Maimun Yusof, 94, who stood in the Kuala Terengganu parliamentary seat managed only 182 votes.

Also suffering the same fate were former Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Minister Tani, Datuk Seri Mohd Shariff Omar who stood as an independent in the Tasek Gelugor parliamentary seat and Sungai Dua state seat in Penang.

Barisan Nasional (BN) new face for the Pengkalan Kota state seat in Penang, Loke Cheang Gin @ Loke Poh Chye from MCA who was in a straight fight against the DAP's Lau Keng Ee, secured only 1,803 votes out of 17,468 cast and lost his deposit.

Sabah witnessed the highest number of candidates losing their deposits, 38 for parliamentary seats and 136 state seats.

Notable was the fight for the Kalabakan parliamentary seat which saw a seven cornered contest.

Four independents and the candidate from STAR were poorer for not being able to secure the one per cent minimum in trying their luck for the seat.

The seat was retained by the BN with its candidate Datuk Abdul Ghafur Salleh winning by a majority of 14,221 votes.

In GE12, 41 candidates lost their deposit in contesting parliamentary seats while 89 met the same fate where state seats were concerned.

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