

Najib loses all five aides to GE13 contest
Malaysian Insider
May 6, 2013
BY MD IZWAN

KUALA LUMPUR, May 6 — All five of Datuk Seri Najib Razak's aides lost their bids in Election 2013 yesterday, even as their colleagues in Barisan Nasional (BN) celebrated victories that saw the coalition returned to power in Putrajaya.

Fielding them in the polls contest had been a deliberate strategy by the ruling BN to ride on the popularity of the country's sixth prime minister and give it a much-needed boost in its struggle to recapture its coveted two-thirds parliamentary majority.

Najib's two special officers, Datuk Shahlan Ismail and Datuk Latt Shariman Abdullah, were beaten by PAS candidates in Kedah although BN successfully wrested the state back from PR at the close of last night's polls.

Shahlan lost by 3,935 votes to PAS vice-president Datuk Mahfuz Omar in the Pokok Sena federal seat while Latt Shariman was defeated by PAS's Mohd Nasir Mustafa by a 1,044-vote majority in the Kubang Rotan state seat.

In the fight for a seat in the Kuala Lumpur Federal Territory, Najib's political secretary in the Finance Ministry Datuk Mohd Shafei Abdullah lost to PKR's Datuk Dr Tan Tee Kwong with a majority of 5,511 votes, significantly bigger than the 2008 results.

Two other special officers also lost their bids, including Datuk Mohamad Fatmi Che Salleh in Kota Baru and Datuk Mohamed Suffian Awang in Kuantan.

As at 4am this morning, BN kept Putrajaya with 133 federal seats, allowing them to form a simple majority government.

PR trailed behind with 89 seats. There are a total of 222 parliamentary seats.

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