

**Pakatan files petitions to challenge results in 24 federal seats**  
**Malaysian Insider**  
**June 10, 2013**  
**By Syed Jaymal Zahiid**

PETALING JAYA, June 10 — Pakatan Rakyat (PR) will start filing election petitions to challenge the results in 24 federal seats beginning today in an attempt to overturn what it claimed was a rigged Election 2013 outcome.

PKR strategic director Rafizi Ramli said the process of the filing will go on until Wednesday while the federal opposition bloc will also launch three civil suits against the Election Commission (EC) for its failure to conduct the May 5 polls fairly within three weeks.

PR will also begin filing election petitions for 10 state seats nationwide with PKR leading the charge with nine seats while PAS will take one.

Each of the petitions will be filed in courts in their respective states.

“I can confirm that beginning today all three PR parties will begin filing election petitions,” Rafizi told a press conference at the PKR headquarters here.

The seats that will be challenged by PKR are Merbok, Kulim Bandar Baru, Ketereh, Machang, Balik Pulau, Tapah, Bagan Datok, Sabak Bernam, Setiawangsa, Segamat, Ledang, Muar, Tebrau, Pasir Gudang, Kota Marudu, Beaufort, Pensiangan and Baram.

For Bagan Datok, the seat helmed by Umno vice-president and Home Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Rafizi said two petitions will be filed. One is the standard election petition while the second will be in relation to an alleged offence committed by the candidate.

Ahmad Zahid was said to have violated the law when he allegedly spent more than the RM200,000 cap imposed on each candidate’s campaign expenses when he purportedly admitted to have given 25,000 voters RM100 and 5kg of rice each.

“He was actually caught on video admitting this and you can see the video which is widely circulated on the Internet,” Rafizi said.

On the civil suit against the EC, the Pandan MP revealed that PR aims to convict the commission for the indelible ink fiasco; to demand a court review of the tainted integrity of the Sabah electoral roll based on the testimonies of the ongoing royal commission of inquiry on the state’s illegal immigrant problems and; civil action to declare the amendment to section 9A of the Election Act that disallows the veracity of the electoral roll in court as unconstitutional.

PR leaders claimed that the Election 2013 results were rigged to favour the ruling Barisan Nasional (BN) coalition.

Next to its plans to drag the EC to court in what is likely to be the biggest civil action mounted against the polls regulator in Malaysian history, the bloc had also launched the “Black 505” movement and held several massive rallies nationwide to step up pressure for polls reform.

Immediately after the May 5 polls, PKR's #siasatPRU13 team made a series of exposes on what it claimed was proof of polls fraud as the opposition moved to pressure Putrajaya to implement polls reform, starting with the complete overhaul of the EC.

The EC has denied the allegation.

Rafizi also said PR will continue with its protests until all the conditions for polls reform are met despite growing calls for the opposition bloc to "move forward" and fight through other channels.

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