

Two former deputy ministers to defend Umno posts
Malaysian Insider
July 30 , 2013

Two former deputy Ministers have signaled their intention to defend their supreme council positions in the Umno polls scheduled to be held in Oct.

Former deputy Higher Education Minister Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah (pic) and former deputy Education Minister Dr Mohd Puad Zarkashi both said they would definitely contest in the party polls.

Both Saifuddin and Mohd Puad had lost their Cabinet positions after failing to defend their respective parliamentary seats in Temerloh and Batu Pahat.

The Star contacted Saifuddin who confirmed that he would be defending his supreme council post.

Mohd Puad also said he would be contesting despite not holding a Cabinet position in the current administration.

On the new voting system for the Umno polls, Saifuddin said the format was a progressive step towards making Umno a more democratic party.

"This is our way of ending money politics and making it difficult for candidates to use money to buy votes leading up to the polls."

"It is also increases participation with all the delegates from the 191 divisions being able to vote."

The Umno polls in October will see about 146,500 delegates eligible to cast their votes compared with less than 3,000 in the previous polls.

The delegates will be involved in electing the president, deputy president, vice-presidents and 25 supreme council members. - July 30, 2013.

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