

Courts Dismiss PKR Petitions For Bagan Datoh And Tapah Seats
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IPOH, Aug 15 (Bernama) -- Two separate Election Courts Thursday dismissed with costs Parti Keadilan Rakyat's (PKR) petition to annul the Bagan Datoh and Tapah parliamentary seat results, which were won by Barisan Nasional (BN) at the 13th General Election.

Judge Datuk Umi Kalthum Abdul Majid held that the petition for Bagan Datoh, which was filed by PKR candidate Madhi Hasan and voter Azmi Sulaiman, had failed to adhere to Rule 9 of the Election Petition Rules 1954.

The Rule requires the name of the petitioner's lawyer to be stated in the document and does not accept filings by laws firms.

Umi Kalthum ordered Madhi and Azmi to pay RM25,000 in costs each to the respondent, Bagan Datoh member of parliament and Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

In another court, Judge Datuk Abdul Rahman Sebli dismissed the petition filed by PKR candidate K. Vasantha Kumar to annul the Tapah parliamentary seat result, on the grounds that it had not adhered to the rules of the Election Petition Rules 1954.

K. Vasantha Kumar was ordered to pay RM50,000 each in cost to the three respondents, namely Tapah member of parliament Datuk M. Saravanan, Tapah division returning officer Razali Bakar and the Election Commission.

Ahmad Zahid won the Bagan Datoh seat by a majority of 2,108 votes, while Saravanan defeated Vasantha Kumar and independent candidates Ridzuan Bani and Shahrulzaman Bistamam by a majority of 7,927 for the Tapah seat.

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