

Hold Sungai Limau by-election before Budget 2014, PAS urges EC
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PAS has called on the Election Commission (EC) to hold the Sungai Limau by-election before the tabling of the 2014 Budget on October 25.

It said this is to avoid accusations that the Barisan Nasional government is influencing voters by taking advantage of the goodies announced in the Budget speech.

"The EC do not want to be seen as working hand-in-glove with the government on this if they decide to have the by-election after the date," said PAS vice-president Datuk Mahfuz Omar (pic) in Parliament today.

The Pokok Sena MP said the by-election should not clash with Umno polls on October 19 and PAS's Muktamar (general assembly) to be held from November 20 to 24.

"The EC should take into account all this when they set the by-election date on Thursday," he said.

The EC will hold a meeting on Thursday to decide the nomination and polling dates.

The Sungai Limau state seat fell vacant after its assemblyman Tan Sri Azizan Abdul Razak, the former Kedah Menteri Besar until last May, died at Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital last Thursday.

Mahfuz said PAS has a good chance to defend the seat it has held since 1995 as the voters are staunch supporters and were happy with the service provided by the Azizan.

He however said the party would not underestimate Barisan Nasional.

Kuala Krai MP Dr Mohd Hatta Ramli said despite his poor health, Azizan had been fielded in the last general election as he was a good administrator and ran the state well.

"We thought he can pull through until the end of the current term but he took a turn for the worst," said Dr Hatta, while assuring that the PAS candidate this time will have no health issues. - September 30, 2013.

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