

Kajang could be Anwar's 'Waterloo'

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KAJANG, Feb 5 — Barisan Nasional may well not contest in Kajang in the belief that PKR de facto chief Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will meet his 'Waterloo'.

Entering the state assembly through Kajang means he can worm his way in to unseat Mentri Besar Tan Sri Khalid Ibrahim and make the position his stepping-stone to Putrajaya in the next general election.

However, Anwar faced a backlash when he announced his candidacy for the seat, as many of the 38,600-odd voters felt "sick and nausea".

The ground began to soften and Anwar began to bungle.

He and PKR director of strategy Rafizi Ramli gave one excuse after another — to the point of the ridiculous — on why he had to make the move.

From the day former Kajang assemblyman Lee Chin Cheh 'mysteriously' resigned, the mostly middle-class electorate has kept an open mind.

Many voiced their discontent and anger at being used, being made to look stupid and abused in the name of democracy, as they saw the reasons as a selfish move for Anwar and the party's interests, not the electorate.

While the nomination and polling dates have yet to be fixed, the ground seems to be open, not for BN's taking but at the very least to the ruling coalition's voice heard.

It was indeed refreshing for once, after the by-elections in Kuala Besut, Terengganu and Sungai Limau, Kedah, the ground had softened for BN, given the anger the electorate have towards PKR and Anwar.

Even PAS grassroots in Kajang were against the move. They might just vote for BN.

The scenario looked like Anwar might indeed face his 'Waterloo' in Kajang, because his move was despised and had agitated the electorate.

However, all this is changing now as BN cannot control the number of contestants participating.

Malaysian Indian United Party president Datuk K.S. Nallakaruppan has jumped into the arena.

Several others are also said to be interested in the 'battle' where 48 per cent of the 38,600 votes are Malay.

Not wanting to vote for MCA, these Malay voters may throw their vote for anybody Malay except Anwar, which again is not good for BN.

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