

Palace gives PAS, DAP and PKR a week for more MB candidates
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The Selangor palace has given the three Pakatan Rakyat component parties a week to submit at least two names for the position of menteri besar, the ruler's private secretary Datuk Mohamad Munir Bani said today.

He said letters were sent to PKR president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang and DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng and they would have to reply by September 3.

PKR and DAP had earlier nominated Kajang assemblyman Wan Azizah, for the post.

On August 14, 29 assemblymen, including two from PAS signed statutory declarations in support of Dr Wan Azizah.

PAS at its August 17 central committee meeting nominated Dr Wan Azizah as the first choice and PKR deputy president and Bukit Antarabangsa representative Azmin Ali as second choice.

However, at the PR presidential council meeting on the same day, Azmin declined the nomination.

The PAS central committee on Tuesday, however, left the decision with the Sultan.

Yesterday, out-going Menteri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim said Sultan

Sharafuddin Idris Shah has decreed that the parties give more than two names.

Mohamad Munir said the submission of additional names would allow the Sultan of Selangor to decide who was the most qualified candidate.

"This is in line with the convention practiced by the Selangor palace in the previous appointment of state menteri besar."

Constitutional lawyers said it was not a legal requirement to send more than one name to the sultan as state constitution stated that ruler shall appoint an MB, who in his judgment is likely to command the confidence of the majority assemblymen.

The tussle for the Selangor menteri Bbesar position has been brewing for more that a month after Khalid refused to resign to make way for Dr Wan Azizah.

This culminated in his sacking by PKR although Khalid still clung on to his position, sacking five DAP and PKR state exco members.– August 27, 2014.

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