

PKR sticks to Wan Azizah for MB post
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PKR is adamant that it will only nominate president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail (pic) for the Selangor Menteri Besar post, in defiance of the state ruler's decree for all parties in the Pakatan Rakyat opposition pact to submit more than two names by today.

Secretary-general Datuk Saifuddin Nasution Ismail said the new central leadership council which met last night reaffirmed its July 21 decision to nominate only the Kajang assembly member.

"Deputy president Azmin Ali also reiterated his support for Dr Wan Azizah to be the sole candidate from PKR for the MB post," he said in a statement today.

This comes as ally PAS submitted both Dr Wan Azizah and Azmin's names to the palace, a move which had strained relations with PKR and another Pakatan party, DAP, as both had all along only nominated Dr Wan Azizah. The bitter tussle between incumbent MB Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim and Pakatan Rakyat culminated in his sacking by PKR.

Khalid then sacked five DAP and PKR exco members, while another resigned. He only retained four PAS exco members which enabled the state government to continue functioning.

However, on August 17, PAS decided to go along with the decision of DAP and PKR and supported the appointment of a new MB.

Although Khalid tendered his resignation, the Sultan of Selangor has deferred his resignation until a new MB was appointed.

Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah gave PAS, DAP and PKR until today to submit more than two names for the MB post.

On the September 25 Pengkalan Kubor by-election, Saifuddin said the leadership had received the proposal from its Kelantan leadership council to continue contesting in the state seat.

"The proposal will be discussed with PAS soon before a final decision is made," he said.

PAS had wanted to contest in the by-election as it was confident of wresting the seat from Barisan Nasional (BN).

Kelantan Deputy Menteri Besar Datuk Mohd Amar Abdullah had regarded the seat as only being loaned to PKR for last year's general election and that PAS could take it back, claiming it had good grassroots support.

"The seat previously belonged to PAS, but based on the pact, we loaned it to PKR to contest against BN in the 13th general election last year," he had said. – September 3, 2014.

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