

BN Chairman To Decide Whether To Field Its Candidate In Chempaka
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KOTA BAHARU, Feb 24 (Bernama) -- Prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak will decide whether the Barisan Nasional (BN) will field a candidate or otherwise in the by-election for the Chempaka state seat on March 22.

Kelantan BN chairman, Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said Najib, as the national BN chairman would make the decision after the Umno Supreme Council (MT) meets and before the nomination day for the constituency on March 10.

"I have yet to discuss with the Pengkalan Chepa Umno division and the Kelantan Umno Liaison Body...the MT has to discuss and eventually the BN chairman (Najib) will make the decision," he told reporters, here today.

Mustapa, who is also the Kelantan Umno Liaison chairman, reiterated that personally he was of the opinion that possibly BN might not need to field a candidate in the Chempaka by-election because it was focusing on post-flood rehabilitation efforts in the state.

The Election Commission (EC) has set March 22 as polling day for the by-election for the Chempaka state seat while nomination day was set for March 10.

The Chempaka state seat fell vacant following the death of the incumbent assemblyman, Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat due to prostate cancer on Feb 12.

In the 13th general election (GE13), Nik Abdul Aziz who was the PAS spiritual lader, won the Chempaka state seat with a majority of 6,500 votes.

The former Kelantan menteri besar obtained 12,310 votes, while the BN candidate, Wan Razman Wan Abd Razak garnered 5,810 votes.

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