

Muhammad Aiman Zainali PH candidate for Semenyih by-election

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SEMENYIH, Feb 14 (Bernama) -- Pakatan Harapan (PH) today announced Muhammad Aiman Zainali, 30, as its candidate for the Semenyih state by-election on March 2.

Muhammad Aiman is the treasurer of the Hulu Langat division of Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (Bersatu). He is an engineer currently pursuing a doctorate in electrical engineering at Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM), Shah Alam.

PH deputy president and Bersatu president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin made the announcement here.

The by-election has been necessitated by the death of the assemblyman, Bakhtiar Mohd Nor of Bersatu, of a heart attack on Jan 11.

It will be the sixth by-election to be held after the 14th general election in May last year. The previous by-elections were for the Sungai Kandis state seat (on Aug 4), Balakong and Seri Setia state seats (Sept 8), Port Dickson parliamentary seat (Oct 13) and Cameron Highlands parliamentary seat (Jan 26).

Also present at the announcement of the PH candidate were PKR deputy president Datuk Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Selangor PH chairman Amirudin Shari and Bersatu deputy president Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir.

In his reaction, Muhammad Aiman, who is also Bakhtiar's son-in-law, said he was ready to go all out to win the by-election and to serve and help solve the problems faced by the constituents.

He said his status as Bakhtiar's son-in-law was not an advantage for him to be named as PH candidate, as he had gone through all the proper channels in the selection process before being

shortlisted among other potential candidates.

“I have to work hard on my own capacity,” he said.

He said if elected, he would focus, among others, on education and basic infrastructures, such as roads, for the people.

At the 14th General Election last May, Bakhtiar garnered 23,428 votes to defeat three other candidates - Datuk Johan Abd Aziz (Barisan Nasional), Mad Shahmidur Mat Kosim (PAS) and S. Arutchelvan (PSM), with 8,964-vote majority.

At a press conference later, Muhyiddin said he believed that Muhammad Aiman would be able to discharge the duties of an assemblyman despite being a young chap.

“He is not too young and not too old. I have checked his qualifications, he has indeed graduated with a degree in engineering from UiTM,” he said referring to the Bachelor’s Degree in Electrical Engineering (First Class) obtained by Muhammad Aiman from UiTM Shah Alam in 2012.

He said the candidate, who is married and a father of one, also used to follow his father-in-law during the late assemblyman’s visits to the ground to meet with the people.

Nomination for the Semenyih by-election is set on Saturday (Feb 16), while early voting on Feb 26.

Meanwhile, Bersatu deputy president Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir said Muhammad Aiman was an apt choice because his good nature and educational background would go down well with the voters.

“The people here want a local to be their elected representative. He is the right man for the job because he meets all the criteria they are looking for,” he told reporters after opening PH’s operations room in Taman Semenyih Indah tonight.

He added that the PH machinery was all set for the by-election.

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