



MAJLIS PERBANDARAN AMPANG JAYA
BAHAGIAN PERHUBUNGAN AWAM DAN SEKRETARIAT
MENARA MPAJ, JALAN PANDAN UTAMA,
PANDAN INDAH, SELANGOR,
55100 KUALA LUMPUR

KERATAN AKHBAR
04 MEI 2018 (JUMAAT)

AKHBAR

MUKA SURAT

The Star

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Keeping up with Ampang's growth

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Need for housing among core issues in fast-developing parliamentary constituency



Candidates for the Bukit Antarabangsa state seat (from left) Sharifah Hazlizah, Salwa, Azwan, Azmin's representative Hamsah Jabir and Ahmad Kamaruddin. — Photos: M. AZHAR ARIFF/The Star

By **SHALINI RAVINDRAN**
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BACKDROPPED by the Titiwangsa mountain range, Ampang has an interesting quality where parts of the area are fast developing while others retain its village charm.

It is adjacent to Kuala Lumpur and enclosed by the Ampang and part of the Hulu Langat forest reserves.

The population has doubled over the past 20 years, and as such, the need for additional housing has been one of the core issues.

Although there is an increased demand for housing, land scarcity remains a concern. Ampang Jaya is spread over 14,350ha, but almost 50% of its land is made up of forest reserves.

The Ampang parliamentary constituency, comprising two state seats — Bukit Antarabangsa and Lembah Jaya — currently has 91,737 registered voters.

The recent redelineation exercise saw several changes in the state seats, with the most significant being that Bukit Antarabangsa will see a majority of 50% Chinese voters, a 14% increase from the previous elections.

The percentage of Malay voters is now at 44% compared to the previous figure of 57%, while registered Indian voters remain at 6%. The polling districts of Enggang Utara and Enggang Selatan as well as Ampang Hilir have been redelineated to the Gombak and Pandan parliamentary constituencies respectively.

Several polling districts were moved from Lembah Jaya, Gombak and Pandan areas to Bukit Antarabangsa.

The districts are Kuala Ampang, Ukay Perdana, Kampung Baharu Ampang Pertama, Kampung Baharu Ampang Kedua, Kampung Baharu Ampang Ketiga, Bandar Baru Ampang, Taman Dagang and Taman Cahaya.

Bukit Antarabangsa currently has 46,537 registered voters.

The most significant change for the Lembah Jaya state seat is that it has lost three polling districts after the redelineation — Tasik Permai, Kampung Baharu Ampang Pertama and Kampung Baharu Ampang Kedua. It currently has 45,200 registered voters.

The Ampang constituency com-

prises voters from low and middle-income families in Pekan Ampang, Bandar Baru Ampang and Kampung Lembah Utara as well as middle- to high-income families in Bukit Antarabangsa, Taman Tun Abdul Razak and Pinggiran Ukay.

To address the housing problem, Ampang's Barisan Nasional candidate from MCA Datuk Leong Kim Soon's main agenda is to build more affordable homes, especially for newlyweds, as property is very expensive in the constituency.

"Young married couples are unable to afford their first home," said the former Bilut state assemblyman from Bentong.

He will battle against incumbent Zuraida Kamaruddin from PKR, Nurul Islam Mohamed Yusoff from PAS and Tan Hua Meng from Parti Rakyat Malaysia's (PRM).

Leong, 41, said he was confident of capturing the younger people's votes.

Nurul Islam, 35, said PAS had received positive response from the voters, especially those in Lembah Jaya.

"This is based on PAS' services to the people. If we win, we will continue to provide better service to the rakyat," he said.

Tan, 60, a former Ampang Jaya Municipal councillor, said he was banking on his experience in the constituency.

"Based on my experience as a three-term councillor, I will practise a hands-on approach in helping the people," he said.

Zuraida, who is a two-term MP, won the seat in GE13 with 41,969 votes against Barisan's Rozaidah Talib from Umno, who obtained 28,691 votes.

In 2008, she won the seat with 26,995 votes against Barisan's Azman Wahid from Umno, who received 23,319 votes.

In Bukit Antarabangsa, incumbent Datuk Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali will face his younger brother Mohamed Azwan Ali, 52, who is standing as an independent candidate.

The other candidates contesting the seat are Barisan Nasional's Salwa Yunus from Umno, PAS' Sharifah Hazlizah Syed Ariffin and Ahmad Kamaruddin from PRM.

Azwan said he chose the elephant logo because it was big and strong, adding that he was excited and confident to go against

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his brother.

"My main agenda is looking after the people in the constituency," said Azwan.

Salwa, 42, who is an Ampang Umno Puteri committee member and a chartered accountant, said she planned to be an assemblyman who is close to the rakyat.

Right after nominations were accepted, Ahmad challenged Azmin to a debate.

"There needs to be an alternative candidate for the rakyat and I'm prepared to take on Azmin," he said.

Sharifah Hazlizah has been a MPAJ councillor since 2013 and is well versed in the issues of the area.

In Lembah Jaya, a four-cornered fight will take place between incumbent Khasim Abdul Aziz from PAS, Barisan's Muhamad Nizam Shih from Umno, PKR's Haniza Mohamed Talha and PRM's Norizwan Mohamed, who is Lembah Jaya PRM coordinator.

Haniza, who is the Taman Medan incumbent, said she would use her two-term experience as an assemblyman to address the issues in Lembah Jaya.

"People in Lembah Jaya, especially from the middle- to low-income groups, want better service from their representative," she said.

Lembah Jaya incumbent Khasim said he would defend his seat with a new approach now that PAS has broken away from the Pakatan coalition.

"We (PAS) are different and so our manifesto is different and I feel our chances of winning are good," he said.

Since nomination day, Muhamad Nizam has visited 40% of the voters in Lembah Jaya.

"The voters have been very supportive of Barisan, and they also want us to look into building more affordable homes.

"They are angry that the current representatives have not done anything to address these issues including water supply disruption and infrastructure for the past two terms," said Muhamad Nizam, who is also Ampang Umno Youth chief.

SELANGOR	
Parliamentary seat	
P09 AMPANG	
2013	
1. Zuraida Kamaruddin (PKR)	41,969
2. Rozaidah Talib	28,691
Majority	13,278
Spoilt votes	738
Unreturned ballot papers	176
Voter turnout	71,574
Total voters	83,135
2008	
1. Zuraida Kamaruddin (PKR)	26,995
2. Azman Wahid (BN)	23,319
Majority	3,676
Spoilt votes	636
Unreturned ballot papers	147
Voter turnout	51,097
Total voters	69,132
State seats	
N19 BUKIT ANTARABANGSA	N20 LEMBAH JAYA
2013	
1. Mohamed Azmin Ali (PKR)	16,502
2. Mohamad Nadzim Ibrahim (BN)	12,458
Majority	4,044
Spoilt votes	304
Unreturned ballot papers	89
Voter turnout	29,353
Total voters	34,467
2008	
1. Mohamed Azmin Ali (PKR)	11,731
2. Haslinda Mohd Zerin (BN)	10,350
Majority	1,381
Spoilt votes	224
Unreturned ballot papers	92
Voter turnout	22,397
Total voters	30,687
2013	
1. Khasim Abdul Aziz (PAS)	25,182
2. Gaderisham Jolly (BN)	16,472
Majority	8,713
Spoilt votes	469
Unreturned ballot papers	95
Voter turnout	42,221
Total voters	48,668
2008	
1. Khasim Abdul Aziz (PAS)	15,182
2. Ismail Kijo (BN)	12,954
Majority	2,228
Spoilt votes	503
Unreturned ballot papers	58
Voter turnout	28,697
Total voters	38,445

Source: Election Commission of Malaysia ©The Star Graphics



Candidates for the Ampang parliamentary seat (from left) Zuraida, Nurul Islam, Leong and Tan.



Candidates for the Lembah Jaya state seat (from left) Khasim, Haniza, Muhamad Nizam and Norizwan.