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One-to-one fight in Serdang

New faces from MCA and DAP to lock horns

CONSTITUENCY WATCH

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FOR this election, there will be a straight fight between Barisan's Datuk Hoh Hee Lee and Teo Nie Ching of the DAP for the Serdang parliament seat.

The state seat of Seri Kembangan will see a three-cornered fight between Barisan's Datuk Liew Yuen Keong, DAP's Ean Yong Hian Wah and former DAP member Wong Kok Yew or who is better known as Jack Wong. Wong is standing as an Independent candidate.

The Balakong state seat will be a straight fight between Barisan's Dr Lai Kwong Choy and DAP's Yap Lum Chin.

For the Bangi state seat, Barisan's Mohd Fadhil Daud will face Dr Shafie Abu Bakar of PAS.

The Serdang parliament constituency (P102), sandwiched between Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya, has developed tremendously over the last 10 years.

Like all other new villages, Seri Kembangan, one of the state seats in Serdang, has undergone tremendous transformation over the years but nostalgia for the past can still clearly be felt there as the British formed it in the 1950s to isolate the Chinese population from the communists.

However, with development comes problems, and among the pressing issues brought up by residents is the daily traffic snarl along the 9.4km of Jalan Besar Seri Kembangan, stretching from Taman Universiti Indah to the Jalan Sungai Besi intersection.

The two-lane Jalan Seri Kembangan is being widened and will be connected to a dual carriageway leading to Sri Serdang, Serdang Jaya and UPM, to cater to the growing number of motorists using the road.

Another major issue that used to upset residents was the frequent flooding at Jalan Kuyup, which links Jalan Besar Seri Kembangan and the Serdang/Puchong highway, a major exit to Kuala Lumpur.

Sungai Kuyuh was once the cause of flash floods that sent residents of both Seri Serdang and Kampung Seri Kembangan scattering to higher ground each time there was a heavy downpour.

The state government spent millions of ringgit over the years to widen and deepen the riverbed, and the floods are now part of history.

Since the last elections, residents in Balakong and Bangi have also experienced a significant improvement in infrastructure, in areas like Cheras Jaya, Bandar Baru Bangi and Selesa Jaya. And like Seri Kembangan, residents in



Hoh (left) and Teo: Straight fight between them for the Serdang parliament seat.

Dr Lai (left) and Yap: They will fight for the Balakong state seat.

Balakong too lived in fear of floods before the federal government looked into their plight by allocating RM8.7mil under the Ninth Malaysia Plan for widening and deepening works at three stretches of Sungai Ramal.

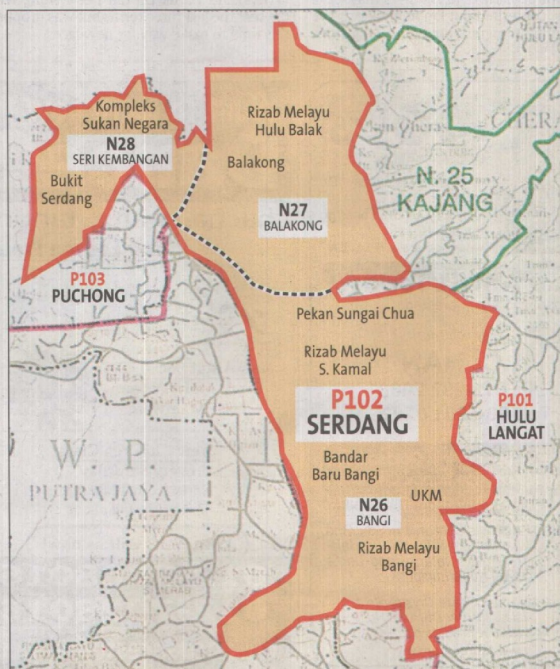
There was good news for residents in Bangi, too. The 30-year-old township gained enough attention from the authorities, especially from the Kajang Municipal Council, for facilities to be provided for residents in areas like Bandar Baru Bangi, Kajang Utama and Bangi Lama.

Residents had claimed that many parts of Bangi were neglected, especially in areas under the former Kajang state seat.

With Barisan Nasional's victory in both state and parliamentary seats, residents enjoyed better facilities with more funds from the state and federal governments.

Serdang was designated a parliamentary constituency in 1995 and Datuk Yap Pian Hon was the first MP there.

The Chinese population is the largest at 57%, followed by Malays (36.17%) and Indians (11.35%). There are three seats and apart from Balakong (N27) and Seri Kembangan (N28), which has majority Chinese voters, Malays form the highest number in Bangi (N26) with 22,853 voters.



STATISTICS

Serdang parliamentary seat (94,877): Chinese, 57% (49,334); Malay, 36.17% (34,313); Indian, 11.35% (10,766).

Bangi state seat (35,898): Chinese, 21.25% (7,627); Malay, 63.66% (22,853); Indian, 14.38% (5,163).

Areas include Bukit Mahkota, UKM, Taman Bukit Mewah, Reko Utara, Sungai Ramal Luar, Sungai Ramal Dalam, Seksyen 3 Bandar Baru Bangi (BBB), Seksyen 1 BBB, Seksyen 6 BBB, Bangi, Taman Jamin, Taman Kajang Utama, Reko Selatan, Taman Kajang Mewah, Seksyen 4 BBB, Seksyen 5 BBB, Seksyen 2 BBB.

Balakong state seat (28,682): Chinese, 56.32% (16,153); Malay, 32.56% (9,340); Indian, 10.07% (3,070). Areas include Kampung Baharu Balakong, Bandar Damai Perdana, Perimbun, Batu 11 Cheras, Cheras Perdana, Bandar Tun Hussein Onn, Simpang Balak, Taming Jaya, Desa Baiduri, Impian Ehsan, Cheras Jaya, Taman Bukit Belimbing.

Seri Kembangan state seat (30,297): Chinese, 84.34% (25,554); Malay, 7.0% (2,120); Indian 8.3% (2,533). Areas include Serdang Lama, Serdang Utama, Seri Kembangan 1-12, Bukit Serdang, Taman Universiti Indah, Desa Serdang, Taman Muhibbah, Sungai Besi Indah, Serdang Raya.