

Nurul Izzah triumphs over Nong Chik

Archival News | The Sun | 06/05/2013 | Author: BY CHARLES RAMENDRAN AND DOROTHY CHENG

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BY CHARLES RAMENDRAN AND DOROTHY CHENG
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

KUALA LUMPUR: The battle fluctuated from an early lead for Datuk Raja Nong Chik Zainal Abidin to a steadier climb by incumbent Nurul Izzah Anwar.

Lembah Pantai, divided into 19 voting districts, saw a tough contest between Parti Keadilan Rakyat's (PKR) Nurul Izzah, Umno's Raja Nong Chik, who also served as the minister of federal territories and urban well-being, and Independent candidate Rusli Baba.

As of 10:50pm, Nurul Izzah had 18,922 votes, trumping Raja Nong Chik's 14,940 votes by a clean 3,982 votes. This number included results from 13 voting districts, postal votes and advanced votes, both of which she lost out to Raja Nong Chik. Rusli has 110 total votes as of press time.

For the advanced votes, Raja Nong Chik won with 1,794 out of 1,894 votes. Nurul Izzah managed to obtain 76 votes while Rusli scored one vote.

As for the postal votes, a startling number of them were disqualified. 74 votes were disqualified, 182 were not inserted into the ballot boxes and one was deemed a suspicious vote and thus disqualified later.

Nurul Izzah ended up losing in this category to Raja Nong Chik with her 120 votes versus his 266 votes. Rusli managed to snag two postal votes.

Nurul Izzah also made an appearance at around 8.30pm, storming into a counting room where an Election Commission official had warded off reporters.

Meanwhile, tension was reported rising at the Lembah Pantai constituency as police keep close guard over groups of political supporters who had alleged phantom voters were being ferried in and had become unruly.

It is learnt that several official vehicles carrying ballot boxes were blocked by groups who smashed vehicles windscreens and windows at about 8.30pm at Bukit Bandaraya.

Supporters were also forming a human barricade disallowing ballot boxes to be taken to the counting centre at the SMK Bangsar school.

Police reinforcements had been deployed.

(END)

Source by : theSun

