PAS candidate nominated for council post

GEORGE TOWN: The state government is again pushing for its preferred candidate – Penang PAS commissioner Datuk Mohd Salleh Man – to be named Penang Islamic Affairs Council (MAIPP) president.

Deputy Chief Minister 1 Datuk Mansor Othman said they were seeking an appointment with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah to appeal to him to appoint Mohd Salleh.

He said the King had in February appointed state executive councillor Abdul Malik Abul Kassim from PKR to the post.

He said the state government had in December nominated Abdul Malik, who is state Religious Affairs, Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Committee chairman, for the post.

“We proposed Abdul Malik’s name to the King since he is the state exco member in charge of religious affairs. This followed our bitter experience earlier when our nominee Mohd Salleh was not chosen for the 2010 and 2011 term,” he said at a press conference here yesterday.

The position instead went to Universiti Sains Malaysia lecturer Ellias Zakaria.

Mansor said PKR leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had promised that Mohd Salleh would be appointed MAIPP president if the latter won the Permatang Pasir by-election in 2009.

Ellias’ two-year term of office ended on Jan 1.