

Judul : Jakarta sees tight competition for 2024 legislative race: Incumbent may take lead ahead of public figures
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Incumbents may take lead ahead of public figures

The Jakarta Post

Jakarta

The capital city of Jakarta is expected to see fierce competition among bigwigs and other legislative candidates competing for only dozens of seats at the House of Representatives during the 2024 legislative election voting day on Feb. 14.

According to data from the General Elections Commission (KPU), there will be 373 legislative candidates competing for votes from 9.9 million eligible voters from Jakarta and overseas. They will contest 21 out of 580 seats in the House.

The capital city is split into three electoral districts: Jakarta I with six seats covering East Jakarta, Jakarta II of Central Jakarta, South Jakarta and overseas voters (seven seats) and Jakarta III comprising North Jakarta, West Jakarta and Thousand Islands regency (eight seats).

Incumbents are in the spotlight in each electoral district, competing for another term in the country's legislative districts. Jakarta II sees the most incumbents with seven candidates, while the other two districts have six each.

The Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P), which currently holds the largest share of House seats among other parties with 128, has six incumbents running in the city, including Charles Honoris who is currently the deputy chair of House Commission IX, which oversees labor and health affairs.

The oft-considered opposition party the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS) registered five incumbent candidates, such as former People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) speaker Hidayat Nur Wahid and another Commission IX deputy chair Kurniasih Mufidayati.

Meanwhile, the Gerindra Party, the Democratic Party and the National Mandate Party (PAN) nominated two incumbents each, while the Golkar Party and the NasDem Party have only named one each.

Popular names

The national legislative election in Jakarta will also see two current members of President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo's cabinet competing.

Manpower Minister Ida Fauziyah, who is also a National Awakening Party (PKB) politician, is running in Jakarta after previously contending in East Java between 1999 and 2014. During that period, she served in various positions within the legislative body, including a House Legislation Body (Baleg) deputy chair.

Another cabinet member competing in Jakarta in February is Youth and Sports Minister Dito Ariotedjo, the youngest cabinet member in more than two decades. He is running for the first time as a legislative candidate under the Golkar ticket.

The 33-year-old politician's name was implicated in a corruption case pertaining to the 4G base transceiver station (BTS) telephony project. However, he denied his involvement to the court.

Voters in the capital will also see celebrities on the ballot, such as singer-songwriter Once Mekel who is running with the PDI-P ticket; actress Ayu Azhari, doctor-cum-actress Lula Kamal and TV personality Uya Kuya who are contenders under PAN and former actor Gilang Dirga for the United Development Party (PPP).

Businesswoman Liliana Tanoesoedibjo, who is a member of the commissioner board of private

2024 legislative election contenders for Jakarta



Incumbents:

Charles Honoris (PDI-P)
Masinton Pasaribu (PDI-P)
Putra Nababan (PDI-P)
Habiburokhman (Gerindra)
Hidayat Nur Wahid (PKS)
Eko Hendro Pumomo (PAN)
Christina Aryani (Golkar)
Ahmad Sahroni (NasDem)



Cabinet ministers:

Ida Fauziyah (PKB)
Dito Ariotedjo (Golkar)



Celebrities:

Ayu Azhari (PAN)
Surya Utama aka Uya Kuya (PAN)
Once Mekel (PDI-P)
Gilang Dirga (PPP)
Yusuf Mansur (Perindo)



Other public figures:

Former badminton athlete Icuk Sugiarto (Hanura)
Academician Ade Armando (PSI)
Politician Faldo Maldini (PSI)



Source: KPU
JP/Aifia Sekar/Swi Handono

television station RCTI, is contesting in Jakarta for the second time under the United Indonesia Party (Perindo). Her husband and party head Hary Tanoesoedibjo is also running for the House in the neighboring province of Banten.

Perindo also has notable Islamic cleric and businessman Yusuf Mansur competing in the capital. Badminton legend Icuk Sugiarto, who won the 1983 World Championship, is contending in Jakarta with the Hanura Party.

Lecturer-turned-politician Ade Armando and politician Faldo Maldini are also on the ballot as candidates for the Indonesian Solidarity Party (PSI), which is helmed by President Jokowi's youngest son Kaesang Pangarep.

Incumbent leading

Due to the tight competition for the legislative race in the city, it is not surprising that the election in Jakarta is mostly domi-

nated by candidates with deep pockets and high popularity since "voters in Jakarta are urban, rational voters", said political analyst Ujang Komarudin.

He echoed PKB chair and vice presidential candidate Muhaimin Iskandar's statement in August last year, saying that it would cost at least Rp40 billion (US\$2.57 million) to woo voters in Jakarta given the fierce competition in the city, as reported by *kompas.com*.

As power and influence are important factors in the race, Ujang estimated that the incumbents still had a greater chance of winning the legislative race in the capital if they could safeguard their constituents over celebrities and newcomers.

"The incumbents have a 60 percent chance of winning since they [have already] had a solid position and programs in the House compared with other candidates," he said. (alf)