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Prabowo stands 'slim chance' of winning petition

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Prabowo-Sandiaga court petition arguments

Proof of systematic, structured and massive cheating	Quantitative proof
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misuse of state apparatus (police and intelligence officers) Discriminatory treatment and misuse of law enforcement Misuse of bureaucracy and state-owned enterprises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unreasonable final voters list (DPT) Errors in KPU's vote-count information system Deliberate misplacing of voter attendance lists (C7 forms) in several regions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misuse of state budget Misuse of state-owned enterprise budgets Restriction of freedom of the press 	

Possible outcomes

If the Constitutional Court accepts Prabowo's petition	If the Constitutional Court rejects Prabowo's petition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The court orders the KPU to annul its previous results announcement and declare Prabowo the winner The court orders the KPU to hold a completely new vote The court orders the KPU to hold revotes at specific polling stations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The court upholds the KPU's official results and the KPU officially declares Jokowi the president-elect

Source: Constitutional Court

Presidential candidate Prabowo Subianto is seeking to disqualify his rival, President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo, with a legal petition at the Constitutional Court, but analysts say his legal team is facing an uphill battle to convince the bench to do exactly that.

In submitting the petition, Prabowo's team also filed 51 pieces of evidence that they said proved the Jokowi camp committed "systemic, structured and massive" fraud resulting in a Prabowo loss.

"The 51 pieces of evidence consist of some documents and testimonies. There are fact witnesses and expert witnesses," Prabowo team lawyer Bambang Widjojanto, a former Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) commissioner, said on Friday night.

However, some experts said they doubt the petition would be successful, expressing skepticism that the evidence would be convincing enough to overturn Jokowi's winning margin of nearly 17 million votes.

"From what I saw, the petition seems very weak and most of the evidence is in the form of links to articles on news websites," Andalas University constitutional law expert Feri Amsari told *The Jakarta Post* on Sunday.

Election participants can only challenge election results at the Constitutional Court, as opposed to election process violations, which are adjudicated by the Elections Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu).

Feri said there were two ways the Prabowo camp could convince the court to overturn the General Elections Commission's (KPU) decision: by presenting proof that the KPU's vote tally documents, the C1 forms, have wrongly given at least 8.5 million votes to Jokowi instead of Prabowo or by demonstrating that the Jokowi camp committed fraud that was massive and widespread enough to affect the election results.

While Prabowo has repeatedly insisted his campaign team's internal "real count" of votes showed that he had won, the petition seemed to indicate that his team would take the latter route.

"That will be very difficult because first they have to prove that misconduct actually happened and

Prabowo asks court to disqualify Jokowi, declare him election winner

Analyst says Prabowo's petition not strong enough to win case

then they have to prove that the misconduct actually changed the results of the election," Feri said.

For example, he said, the petition cited declarations by the heads of several West Sumatra regions who supported Jokowi as proof of "regional head bias" in the elections.

"Even if they can successfully prove that the regional heads did something wrong, Prabowo actually won in West Sumatra," Feri said, adding that the challenger took about 86 percent of the vote there. "So it will be hard to prove that their support of Jokowi changed the results of the election."

Bambang, as the Prabowo team's lead lawyer, has had some previous successes at the court, most notably winning a dispute regarding the 2010 West Kotawaringin regency election, also citing systemic, structured and massive cheating.

However, Jentera Law School constitutional law expert Bivitri

Susanti said there were some key differences between the West Kotawaringin petition and Prabowo's current one.

"First of all, the sociopolitical context and the scale is very different: a regency versus a whole country," she told the *Post*. "The margin between the two candidates was also much smaller, only a few thousand votes, compared to the millions of votes that separate Prabowo and Jokowi."

Feri agreed, adding that while the West Kotawaringin petition was one of the strongest election dispute petitions he had ever seen, the Prabowo petition compared unfavorably to it.

"But that doesn't mean the Prabowo team has no chance of winning at all. For example, if they can prove there was significant cheating in regions such as Central and East Java where Jokowi won by big margins, then it will be interesting," he said. "But they will have to present better evidence than they did in the petition."

If the court is convinced by the Prabowo camp's arguments, there are several options it could take.

"The court usually considers the petitioner's request when handing down its rulings," Bivitri said. Prabowo's petition asks that the court cancel the KPU's announcement and disqualify

Jokowi and declare Prabowo as the winner of the 2019 election or, failing that, to order the KPU to conduct "honest and fair" revotes "across all of Indonesia".

Feri said that depending on the evidence, the court could order a completely new vote or just revotes at specific polling stations. "But if the number of affected polling stations is not significant, the court might not order revotes at all."

The Jokowi camp has prepared its own legal team and said it was ready to respond to the petition as a related party.

"We predicted that [Prabowo would file a petition] and we formed a small team to compile evidence long before the KPU's announcement," the head of the Jokowi campaign's legal and advocacy division Ade Irfan Pulungan, said recently.

"We have already prepared evidence to rebut claims of election fraud," the Jokowi legal team's deputy chairman, Arsul Sani, said.

Gerindra to lead weakened opposition

Nurul Fitri Ramadhani
THE JAKARTA POST/JAKARTA

The House of Representatives is expected to become dry land for critical voices as the Gerindra Party is projected to lead a weak opposition to balance the allies of incumbent President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo that have become the majority of the legislature.

Projected to become the third-largest party in the House with 78 seats, the party, which is led by losing presidential candidate Prabowo Subianto, will be the only party from the opposition camp that will secure a leadership position at the House.

Article 427 of the Legislative Institutions (MD3) Law stipulates that House speakership consists of one House speaker and four deputy speakers from the top five political parties with the most votes.

Gerindra will join the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P), the ruling party from the Jokowi coalition that has been announced the winner of the legislative race, along with other members of the coalition, the Golkar Party, the NasDem Party and the National Awakening Party (PKB).

Three other political parties that supported Prabowo during the general election—the Democratic Party the National Mandate Party (PAN) and the Pros-

Ruling, opposition parties still competing for MPR leadership posts

Gerindra to become only opposition party with leadership position

perous Justice Party (PKS)—will still get seats at the House but not in the leadership.

Even if Gerindra is able to rally support against parties supporting Jokowi, it will still be outnumbered — as the latter parties are projected to dominate about 60 percent of House seats.

The Indonesian Parliament Watch (Formappi) has pointed out that the opposition power will not be strong enough to significantly influence lawmaking, hence, there is worry that there will be a lack of voices critical of the government.

"If the opposition camp is weak, the House will have no challenge. As a consequence, lawmakers' performance will not improve," Formappi researcher Lucius Karus said recently.

Political observer Arya Fernandes from think-tank Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) said a progovernment dominated legislature would not be effective. "Basically, we need a strong legislature. So if nearly all parties join the government coalition, we won't have a

Projected parties' seats at House of Representatives

● PDI-P	128 seats
● Golkar Party	85 seats
● Gerindra Party	78 seats
● NasDem Party	59 seats
● PKB	58 seats
● Democratic Party	54 seats
● PKS	50 seats
● PAN	44 seats
● PPP	19 seats
Total seats at the House	575

Source: Perludem

strong legislative institution and the lawmakers will no longer be critical," Arya said.

Gerindra may try to look for greater clout by securing speakership at the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) along with other parties in the opposition camp.

By securing MPR speakership, political parties have control of inaugurating or impeaching the president and vice president, as well as rule over constitutional amendments.

The MD3 Law also stipulates that, unlike House leadership, the appointment of speakership in the assembly, which also includes members of the Regional Representatives Council (DPD), is carried out through voting.

Political parties are required to propose a leadership package consisting of political party representatives that will be voted on in the assembly.

The voting system has driven competition among Golkar and

the PKB, which have demanded the MPR speaker post. Speculation is rife that PAN—with chairman Zulkifli Hasan the incumbent of the post—is also trying to keep the speakership.

Golkar chairman Airlangga Hartarto said he had conveyed to Jokowi that his party, which secured the second-largest number of House seats, deserved the MPR speaker post. "Golkar has asked [for the seat] and it's acceptable. Jokowi has given a positive response," Airlangga said.

Gerindra deputy chairman and House Deputy Speaker Fadli Zon said that although the party still had a chance to gain leadership in the MPR, the matter was not yet on the party's table. "We're still focusing on the presidential election dispute," Fadli said.

The Association for Elections and Democracy (Perludem), however, is more skeptical about Jokowi's supporting parties. Perludem executive director Titi Angraini said the strong support behind Jokowi might end soon as the political parties—both ruling and opposition—would realign themselves for the 2024 general election, when Jokowi would not be able to run again.

"They may be solid for the next one or two years ahead, but after that, the parties may have other agendas and stand from the government," she said.

Fears over political unrest drive insurance premium

Made Anthony Iswara

THE JAKARTA POST/JAKARTA

Fears over possible damages caused by political unrest surrounding the 2019 election have contributed to an increase in insurance premium revenues in the first quarter of 2019, according to the Association of Indonesian General Insurance Companies (AAUI).

The combined premium revenues recorded by AAUI's members in the first quarter grew by nearly 19 percent quarter-to-quarter to Rp 19.76 trillion (US\$1.37 billion).

AAUI executive director Dody Achmad Sudiyar Dalimunthe said fears that the election would trigger political unrest contributed to an increase in purchases for vehicles and house insurance, which constituted over half of the total premium revenues.

Dody predicted last year in an interview with Kontan that demand for risk-related insurance would increase as cash flow and consumption was expected to be high during the election period.

"[Some customers have bought] extensions on insurance for terrorism or sabotage. These people are afraid of the possible risks [during the elections] like riots," Dody said in a press conference on Thursday.

Supporters of presidential candidate Prabowo Subianto staged protests in front the Elections Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) headquarters in Central Jakarta in Jakarta on May 21 following

General insurance premium rises by 19 percent in January-March period

People were worried about unrest during elections

the announcement of the result of the presidential election. Joko "Jokowi" Widodo and his running mate Ma'ruf Amin won the April 17 election by a 55.5 percent to 44.5 percent margin over Prabowo and Sandiaga Uno.

AAUI's research, statistics, information technology analysis and actuarial head, Trinita Situmean, said cars set on fire in such circumstances could be replaced through insurance schemes, as long as the risk-related terms were included in the agreement.

For example, customers subscribed to riot insurance extensions are likely to be covered by their insurers, which would require them to pay an additional 0.5 percent on top of their monthly premium.

"However, the insurance company has to investigate first, as the [fire's] point of origin may differ," Trinity explained.

"For instance, if the car's radiator sparked the fire, then only the radiator will be compensated, as insurers will not be able to replace the entire car."

AAUI executive director Dody said the acceleration of the infrastructure development program at the final year of Jokowi's first

term also contributed to the sharp increase in the premium income in the first quarter of this year.

In the 2018 state budget, the government allocated Rp 410.7 trillion for infrastructure development, the largest allocation for infrastructure in the country's history. Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati also told Kontan in a recent interview that in the first quarter the government's spending had grown 11.8 percent to Rp 370 trillion.

As such, the association has expressed optimism it would reach the 10 percent gross premium revenue growth target it set last year. The association's current market penetration of 3.04 percent was also expected to increase, Dody said, as government-subsidized insurance for farmers and fishermen, among others, had boosted public awareness of the importance of insurance.

However, he warned insurers of looming global risks, as evident in skyrocketing claims in energy as oil prices remained "expensive". The first quarter, he said, had seen a 37.9 percent increase in claims in the first quarter to Rp 28.7 trillion.

In addition, the ongoing trade war between China and the United States presented a gloomy outlook for export-related insurers, he added, amid economic turmoil.

"Almost every business line enjoyed positive growth in the first quarter [...] but it's too soon to predict future performance only from [data] in the first quarter," Dody said.

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ENERGY

PLN offers discount to boost consumption

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THE JAKARTA POST/JAKARTA

State-owned electricity firm PLN hopes an increase in electricity consumption resulting from discounts the company offers industrial clients since March will offset a decline in demand during the Idul Fitri holiday season.

PLN estimates electricity consumption will fall between 30 percent and 35 percent in peak hours during the two-week annual holiday. Many factories are closed for a week before and a week after Idul Fitri, which falls on June 5.

Amir Rosidin, PLN's business director for the central part of Java, said on Thursday that electricity consumption would significantly fall from the end of May until June 9, during which many factories are closed and many people travel to their hometowns to celebrate the holiday with their extended families.

PLN estimates that peak-hour electricity consumption in the Java-Bali power grid, for example, will be about 17,179 megawatts (MW), 37 percent down from the normal 27,817 MW.

"It could be below 12,100 MW in the morning of June 5, because almost all people will leave

their homes to attend Idul Fitri prayers in mosques," Amir said.

In Sumatra, peak-hour electricity consumption is expected to decline by 30 percent from 2,100 MW by to 1,470 MW during the Idul Fitri holiday season.

Lower electricity use means lower sales, which will affect PLN's revenue. Amir estimates a 30 percent decline in revenue during the holiday season.

However, Amir said the increase in revenue resulting from the discount program could offset the decline during the two-week holiday.

From March 2019 until December 2020, PLN offers a discount of 30 percent for electricity use outside peak hours, or from 11 p.m. until 8 a.m.

Amir said the discount had proven to be effective because it increased electricity consumption of industrial users outside the peak hours.

Previously PLN had announced a temporary discount of up to 100 percent for customers fulfilling several requirements, such as a 50 percent discount for those who had registered with the PLN contact center, a 75 percent discount for customers who had an induction cooker or electrical bike and 100 percent discount for electric vehicle owners.

PLN assured the public that its grids in the Java-Bali system, Sumatra and eastern Indonesia would operate normally.

"Even though electricity demand will be lower than usual, the system's reliability has to be maintained," PLN West Java business director Haryanto W.S. noted.

PLN said that, to ensure the system's reliability, the firm would inspect each power plant and strengthen transmission and distribution systems.

Amir said that, during the low season, PLN and several independent power producers (IPP) would temporarily shut down more than 20 power plants, which had a combined generation capacity of 10,000 MW.

"At least 10,000 MW of electricity supply will be cut off from the power grids," he added.

Deputy Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Arcandra Tahar said on Thursday's visit that PLN had to ensure reliable electricity supply during Ramadan and Idul Fitri.

"Electricity supply is important so that people can enjoy Idul Fitri with their families in comfort. Hence, we have to ensure the reliability and availability of electricity during such a special day," he said.