

16/10/1998

Pas rules out any electoral pact with Gerak members

KEPALA BATAS, Thurs. - Despite its co-operation with the DAP and Parti Rakyat Malaysia in the Malaysian People's Justice Movement (Gerak), Pas will not collaborate with them in the next general election, Pas president Datuk Fadzil Noor said.

"Right now we are focusing on efforts to repeal the Internal Security Act and other laws which are unjust to the people."

Fadzil, who is Gerak chairman, said the issue of Pas working with other opposition parties in the next election did not arise.

"We are just working together now to fight against injustice on the people," he told reporters after launching the State-level Gerak gathering at Penang Pas headquarters in Pongsu Seribu near here.

Gerak is represented by 16 non-governmental organisations.

Fadzil was asked if Pas would work with the DAP and PRM in the next election as they were now together under Gerak.

PRM secretary-general Dr Sanusi Osman, present at the Press conference, was asked the same question. He said PRM was interested in fighting injustice.

Penang DAP secretary Chow Kon Yow said it was up to the party leadership to decide on co-operation with Pas and PRM in the next election.

In the 1995 election, Pas and the now-defunct Parti Melayu Semangat 46 formed an alliance under Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah, but failed to defeat Barisan Nasional.

In the same election, the DAP, PRM and Parti Bersatu Sabah along with several smaller Opposition parties worked together under Gagasan Rakyat.

On Saturday, when addressing a Pas gathering in Pongsu Seribu, Fadzil said the party would individually challenge the BN.

He urged Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to call for an early general election to test his support.

At the gathering, DAP supporters took advantage to conduct the party's "Redeem Justice, Free Guan Eng" signature campaign.

Lim Guan Eng, DAP deputy secretary-general and son of DAP secretary-general Lim Kit Siang, is serving two concurrent 18-month jail sentences in Kajang Prison for offences under the Sedition Act and Printing Presses and Publications Act.

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