

20 DEC 1999

PAS-Lies

BN SLANDER LED TO RISE IN SUPPORT FOR OPPOSITION, SAYS PAS

KUALA TERENGGANU, Dec 20 (Bernama) -- Increased support for the opposition in the recent general election which saw PAS capturing Terengganu and retaining Kelantan resulted from the people's disenchantment with slander by Barisan Nasional (BN), said PAS vice president Mustafa Ali.

He said BN lies and slander include making use of the mass media which turned off the electorate.

"Our post mortem showed we gained from that," he told reporters after the oath taking by the Terengganu state assemblymen and the State Assembly sitting here today.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday said lies and slander spread by PAS as well as internal problems of Umno were among factors that led to reduced votes garnered by Umno in the general election.

After chairing the Umno Supreme Council meeting yesterday, Dr Mahathir said during campaigning, PAS had accused him of not recognising ulamas and Negeri Sembilan Menteri Besar Tan Sri Isa Samad as a pig farmer.

Asked about the incidence of performing prayers with two imams in Terengganu, Mustafa said based on information received there has been no recurrence.

"The state government will always ensure that the matter was not repeated," he said.

"The people have been asked to be united and we are satisfied with the unity existing now."

He also dismissed the recent claim by Minister of International Trade and Industry Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz that under PAS, Terengganu would have problems to attract investments to state.

Mustafa said investors were in fact beginning to show interest in Terengganu.

-- BERNAMA

SBS SN THG