

18 JUL 1999

Hadi-PM

DAP LEADER CANNOT BECOME PRIME MINISTER - HAJI HADI

BESUT, Terengganu, July 18 (Bernama) -- PAS Deputy President Haji Hadi Awang has reiterated party president Datuk Fadzil Noor's contention that the DAP leader cannot become Prime Minister of Malaysia if the so called Alternative Front wins the General Election.

Hadi said DAP leaders including Secretary-General Lim Kit Siang could not become Prime Minister because that party would only have 30 seats in the 192-member Dewan Rakyat.

"To be Prime Minister, the person should command a majority in Parliament and the DAP leader cannot become Prime Minister as the 30 seats it may win will be far short of the majority required," he told a PAS ceramah at Kampung Tok Raja near Besut last night.

Nevertheless, he stressed that the Federal Constitution provided for any Malaysian citizen to become Prime Minister if his party commanded a majority in Parliament. This was subject to the consent of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

Haji Hadi said if PAS won the General Election it would implement the Hudud Law in Malaysia as all along the party had been championing and working towards this end.

He said PAS in formulating its Hudud Law had invited representatives of all religions in the country and political parties as well as academics for discussions and all of them attended except for Umno which did not come even though it was invited.

Hadi claimed that Kelantan Umno Chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah was ignorant of Islamic Law by challenging PAS to swear on the Quran over the appointment of a Deputy Menteri Besar from the then Parti Melayu Semangat 46, which he then led.

"We did not pledge the post to the Parti Semangat," he said.

He said PAS had always provided an opportunity and a platform for expelled Umno leaders to speak up and this facility was also given to Tengku Razaleigh and also former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

"When Dr Mahathir was expelled from Umno by Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman in 1969, all Umno leaders shunned him ...it was PAS which came by and talked to him and provided him (Dr Mahathir) with an opportunity to speak in Kampar (Perak)," Haji Hadi said.

However Hadi did not touch on the issue in Besut where PAS had expelled four of its members and dissolved the Besut PAS Youth Movement.

-- BERNAMA

SBS AAM