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PBS-voters

ELECTORAL ROLL HAS THOUSANDS OF DUBIOUS ENTRIES, CLAIMS PBS

KOTA KINABALU, July 2 (Bernama) -- Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) today claimed that there are 64,701 dubious entries in the current national electoral roll of 9,694,156 voters.

The party said the suspect entries showed duplicate or triplicate identity card (IC) numbers.

PBS president Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan said the party's findings showed that out of every one thousand names in the electoral roll, almost seven had duplicate IC numbers.

He said Sabah was the worst affected by the problem of duplicated ICs in the whole country with 6,025 entries, of which 5,116 entries were registered in the state electoral roll while 909 entries were outside of Sabah.

"The problem here is almost 13 times worse than Labuan and seven times worse than Melaka," he said told a news conference, here.

Pairin said the party viewed the matter with urgency in view of the impending general election and urged the National Registration Department (NRD) and the Election Commission (SPR) to rectify the situation.

"We are thankful for SPR's assurance that it will clean up the electoral roll not only for Sabah but the whole country. We are exposing this with the noble objective of assisting the government, especially SPR," he said.

He said this was also in line with the statement by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently that there were outside forces which threatened the nation's security.

Pairin cited a case in Johor where three registered voters -- Tan Ah Jee, Wasil Asdi and Ibrahim Mod Tahir -- shared the same IC number, 0001384, which was also held by another voter, Periman Awin, in Pahang.

"All states in Malaysia have similiar problems and this shows that there might be non-citizens of Malaysia being registered as voters. In this age of the Multimedia Super Corridor, an error of this nature within our electoral roll is completely unacceptable," he said.

Commenting on the June 20 defection of PBS Deputy president and assemblyman for Kuamut Haji Malek Chua and Pensiangan assemblyman Ulin Pamiang to Umno, Pairin said: "We should be looking at the provisions of the law and the spirit or objective of those documents. If a person stands up, swears an affidavit and signs a statutory declaration ... that may be a serious matter because it is an oath."

PBS had claimed that Malek and Ulin had pledged in a statutory declaration that if they were to cross over to another political party or declare themselves as independent members of the state legislative assembly, they would resign and vacate their seats.

-- BERNAMA

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