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Fadzil-Challenge

IT IS UP TO DR MAHATHIR WHETHER TO CONTEST OR OTHERWISE- PAS CHIEF

TUMPAT, July 21 (Bernama) -- PAS President Datuk Fadzil Noor has said it is up to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to decide whether he wants to contest in the General Election or otherwise if it can be proved that there are verses in the Al-Quran which allow Muslims to utter profanities.

Fadzil said the Prime Minister's challenge to Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz to show the proof could be a ploy for him to stay out of the election as he could have the feeling that he would lose.

"It is up to him (Dr Mahathir)...probably he feels he is going to lose and is looking for a way to stay out of the election," he told reporters after delivering a political ceramah at Tanjung Kuala here last night.

Nik Aziz speaking at the same ceramah session declined to refer to the relevant verses in the Al Quran but instead urged reporters to refer to his ceramah at the Stadium Sultan Muhammad IV on May 1 of which a cassette recording was available.

Nik Aziz also declined the offer of the post of Kelantan Mufti offered by Kelantan Umno Chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, saying that post would only cover Kelantan, whereas his present position of Mursyidul Am (Chief of the Council of Islamic Theologians) applied for the whole of Malaysia.

Fadzil in his ceramah said PAS expelled four of its members in Besut after coming up with evidence that they were involved in disservice to the party and Muslims.

"It has been the PAS tradition to turn to expulsion only if there is proof and also we have given them enough time to correct their mistakes," he said.

PAS expelled four of its members in the Besut area including former PAS Chief for the area Abdul Latih Muhammad and the local PAS Youth Chief.

-- BERNAMA

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