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Mahathir-PAS

PAS' STRUGGLES ONLY GEARED AT WINNING THE ELECTION, SAYS PM

IPOH, Aug 2 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that PAS' struggles including to set up an Islamic state and implement the hudud are merely geared at winning the election.

"They are not the specific agenda of the party. PAS is only making a general statement over the setting up of an Islamic state and the implementation of the hudud," he said at a meeting with Perak Umno division, Umno Youth and Wanita Umno leaders, here.

He said that when PAS was forming a pact with the DAP recently, that party (DAP) was not in favour of the agenda to set up an Islamic state, and PAS had readily dropped it.

"This shows that the plan by PAS is not concrete...it is only to attract voters to give it support. It believes that by promising an Islamic state, the Malays will give it support," he said.

Dr Mahathir said that PAS actually did not have any plans to develop the nation or the religion.

In fact, he said, to PAS the religion was "merely a few verses".

"PAS could not possibly form the government as the party does not have specific plans and instead proceed only according to what strikes the PAS leaders. Whatever occurs to them, they will state them as the party's intention," he said.

He said that PAS leaders need not have to think much as they suffer from "verbal diarrhoea" and that was the problem with PAS leaders.

This would make it difficult for PAS to take over from Umno in the Malaysian government and the Malays would be dragged into a "very real danger" because of the statements uttered without thinking, he said.

Dr Mahathir said that PAS' action in making promises showed that they knew they would lose in the election and could make all sorts of promises.

He said that Umno would only state matters that the party could carry out like defending the dignity of the Malays, which had already been fruitful.

"It is easy to say things but to fulfil them will not be so easy," he said, citing the promise by PAS to pay allowance to the unemployed, as it would require a lot of money.

In Kelantan, he said, it was proven that PAS did not have the means to supply water to the people and had to borrow from the federal government.

-- BERNAMA

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