

23/09/2000

PM challenges Pas to deliver like the BN

Zubaidah Abu Bakar

BUKIT KAYU HITAM, Fri. - The Kelantan and Terengganu Pas Governments should meet the needs of the people instead of merely claiming that any Government could do what the Barisan Nasional was doing in other States, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister said not all Governments were capable of emulating the BN Government.

"I challenge Pas to show what good it has done (for the people) besides spreading lies," he told a gathering with the people at Ladang Rakyat in Laka Temin near here.

Challenging Pas to provide facilities like the BN had done in other States, Dr Mahathir, who is also Umno President, cited the example of the Kelantan Government to prove his point. He said while Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat had requested monetary aid from the Federal Government for infrastructure projects, it was the same person who had constantly said that any Government could provide what the BN Government had.

He said Nik Aziz had also stated that there was no need for the people to be thankful and grateful to the Government but only to God.

"Yet the State Government in Kelantan was unable to provide facilities for the people, including water supply.

"He has asked to borrow RM600 million ... the State Government has asked so many things, to build roads, bridges ...," he added.

Dr Mahathir said while Umno and BN had proven their capability in helping the people, Pas only talked and spread lies. He said Pas had insulted Islam in many ways and, most recently, the Prophet Muhammad. The party was also causing a split among Muslims.

The Prime Minister said Pas members should reject the party and support those who fought for the true cause of Islam.

"Umno did not insult religion. In fact, we built mosques, surau, (and set up) Bank Islam and Takaful (insurance)," he added.

The Prime Minister is here with his wife Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali on a working visit.

He was greeted by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain and BN leaders and supporters upon arrival at the Sultan Abdul Halim airport in Kepala Batas.

He later spent about 30 minutes at the site of the proposed Boeing plant near here.

(END)