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Razaleigh-PAS

AMENDMENTS TO KELANTAN CONSTITUTION, AN ACT OF VENGEANCE- KU LI

TUMPAT, April 27 (Bernama) -- The Kelantan Government's move to amend the State Constitution on matters relating to the functions of the Rulers in the administration is really an act of vengeance against the Kelantan Palace, Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said today.

Tengku Razaleigh, who is a member of the Umno Supreme Council, said the move followed the withdrawal of royal awards from two Kelantan State Executive Councillors in January this year.

Tengku Razaleigh, who is also the Member of Parliament for Gua Musang, was speaking to reporters after opening the Tumpat Umno Division delegates conference here.

The awards were withdrawn from the State Executive Councillor for Public Administration, Local Government and Regional Development Takiyuddin Hassan and State Executive Councillor for Islamic Development and Propagation Mohamad bin Daud.

The Kelantan PAS Government previously refrained from amending the State Constitution to bring it line with the Federal Constitution which was similarly amended in 1993 as they were then up in arms against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"Now they (PAS) want to make amendments, it is not known whether it will become reality or not...if the Tuanku does not give his consent, the amendments will not be valid," he said.

Tengku Razaleigh also said if PAS truly wished to champion Islam it should throw away the present State Constitution which was drawn up by the English and replace it with one based fully on the Quran and Hadis.

Opening the conference, Tengku Razaleigh said Umno needed leaders from the young generation, who had the vision to continue with the struggle in defence of Islam, the race and the country.

"Umno wants leaders who are people-oriented and those who will ensure that the people had a better life than previously," he said.

In their efforts to scout for new talents, Umno members should not be influenced by money politics and sweet promises.

Tengku Razaleigh advised Umno members to forget any differences which might have cropped up during the divisional polls and close ranks immediately.

PAS always took advantage of any sign of disunity in Umno to impress upon the people that Umno was a weak party, he added.

The special session of the Kelantan State Assembly to amend the State Constitution scheduled for April 30 has been postponed indefinitely as the draft amendments are not ready.

--- BERNAMA

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