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RIDICULOUS FOR EC TO TALK ABOUT ELECTRONIC VOTING SYSTEM, SAYS DAP

PENANG, Dec 29 (Bernama) -- DAP national chairman Lim Kit Siang today described the Election Commission's (EC) plan to introduce an electronic voting system as ridiculous.

He said it was ridiculous for the body to talk about implementing an electronic voting system for future elections when it could not even cope with online voter registration or accomplish its most elementary task of drawing up a clean and valid electoral list free of phantom voters.

In a statement released here, he said the EC should give top priority to introducing an automatic voter registration system, where a citizen who reaches 21 years and qualifies to be a voter is automatically placed on the electoral list based on his or her address on the national identity card, and to purge the electoral list of all phantom voters.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had bandied the figure of 2.8 million phantom voters while Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi had said that there should not be much difficulty in tracking the phantom voters as the EC and the relevant government departments were fully computerised.

Kit Siang said that the DAP fully agreed on the need for a complete clean-up of the electoral roll to ensure that voting was not tainted by fraud, cheating and phantom votes and the integrity of the EC was at stake on whether it could clean the electoral roll of phantom voters.

-- BERNAMA

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