

MCA Youth to counter PAS' lies and empty promises

STAR 17 NOV 2003

KLANG: MCA Youth will counter lies and empty promises made by PAS to ensure that non-Muslims are not easily duped by the opposition party's attempt to fish for votes.

MCA Youth chief Datuk Ong Tee Keat said the movement's Legal Bureau would be studying the blueprint following last week's release of the document by PAS.

"We will go all out to expose PAS and its propaganda as we want the public to be aware that it is a party with two faces and hence would do anything to garner support from the electorate," he said after opening the three-on-three indoor basketball tournament at Klang Parade yesterday.

He said the move by PAS to come with two separate manifestos for the election reflected its insincerity.

"They told the Chinese community earlier that they will not insist on an Islamic state but the release of its blue-

print indicated that it was championing an Islamic state," he said.

Ong said there was no reason for people to support PAS as its president Datuk Abdul Hadi Awang admitted that most of the points raised in its Islamic state blueprint had been implemented by the ruling Barisan Nasional Government.

Ong, who is also Deputy Youth and Sports Minister, said MCA Youth would launch a pre-election programme called "Embracing the Blue Skies" on Dec 1 which would be launched by MCA deputy president and Transport Minister Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy.

In **Kuala Lumpur**, Federal Territory MCA chief Datuk Tan Chai Ho said the Chinese community should be cautious and not be taken in with everything that was stated in PAS' Islamic state document.

He said the recent implementation

of the hudud in Terengganu was an example of how things might turn out differently after they were elected.

"It is already clear that it is against the Federal Constitution for hudud to be implemented, but they are still pushing for it," he said when opening the Cheras MCA youth cadet training session yesterday.

He added that PAS' Islamic State was not suitable for a multi-cultural country like Malaysia.

On the general election, Tan urged candidates who had suffered defeat during previous elections to not feel disheartened.

"Many political leaders today had suffered defeat. Even our former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad had lost before," he said.

He added that they should emulate these leaders who worked very hard after being defeated and as a result, managed to win in subsequent elections.