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Mahathir-PAS

PAS CHEATS TO GAIN VOTES, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

SUBANG, Nov 15 (Bernama) -- Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that cheating is PAS' way to gain votes and the opposition party does not practise what it preaches.

"It says it wants to set up an Islamic state but its intention is to cheat the people to gain votes. It says it wants to work with the DAP but likewise, it wants to cheat the DAP so that the DAP supports it and then it will do something else," the former prime minister said.

He told reporters this at the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) base here upon his return with his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, from Japan and a holiday in Spain.

He said the Islamic State Document unveiled by PAS on Wednesday was a trick because "the party is in cahoots with the devil".

"(PAS spiritual leader Datuk) Nik (Abdul) Aziz (Nik Mat) has said that he is prepared to cooperate with the devil...he said God swears, God is a hooligan, his intention is to absolve his people who are hooligans," he said.

God would not forgive Nik Aziz because the PAS leader had lied to garner votes and for political mileage, he said when asked to comment on the PAS leadership's statement that the opposition party had ensured that Dr Mahathir vacated his seat as prime minister.

When Dr Mahathir announced his intention to step down over a year ago, PAS had dismissed it as play acting but when he did step down on Oct 31, the PAS leaders turned around and said that they had said that to ensure that he really relinquished the post.

Dr Mahathir said: "He said it knowing that it was not true but later he said that it was because of him that I resigned."

On PAS information chief Datuk Harun Din's statement yesterday that he would contest in Kubang Pasu if Dr Mahathir sought re-election in the constituency, he said: "So, if I don't contest (he will say that) I'm afraid of him, he pressures me so that I don't contest. This is PAS' way...it says one thing and does something else."

Dr Mahathir said he had a duty to explain to the people how PAS had cheated them as the party said one thing with the intention of doing something else.

"They say they want to build an Islamic nation when their aim is really to cheat the people so that the people will support them. They know they cannot do it, whatever they call their Islamic state which is not Islamic at all...it is just a PAS thing."

He said Malaysia was already an Islamic nation so there was no need for PAS to lie about the setting up of an Islamic state.

"The whole world acknowledges us as an Islamic nation, as an model in fact. They want to copy Malaysia, they dont say they want to copy Kelantan or Nik Aziz," he said.

Asked on the DAP's and Partic Keadilan Nasional's opposition to PAS' Islamic state model, Dr Mahathir said : "These are comedians."

He said the two parties were engaged in a play as they were scared to express their support for PAS' Islamic state model due to fear of losing the Chinese votes.

The former prime minister felt that eventually the three opposition parties would work together and try to cheat the people.

Asked again of the appointment of a deputy prime minister, Dr Mahathir

said it was the prerogative of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

"It's not my business. As an ordinary citizen, I'll wait. The power of appointment lies with the prime minister.

He also said that from the response of the people, Abdullah's leadership was very good.

-- BERNAMA

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