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Election-Hadi

HADI WANTS DECISION BASED ON TOTAL OVERALL VOTES IN CASE OF A TIE

MARANG, March 19 (Bernama) -- PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang said today the people should decide on who would form the government in case of a tie in the number of State Assembly seats won by the contesting parties.

He said this could be done by adding up the total number of votes received by the contesting parties at all polling centres in the state and the one with the most number of votes should form the government.

"It is not up to the Election Commission (EC), we don't bow down to the EC in this matter, it should be monitored further based on the majority votes of all the people," he told reporters here today.

He said this when asked to comment on the statement by EC Chairman Tan Sri Abdul Rashid Abdul Rahman yesterday which, among others, said that the EC would draw lots to decide on which party would form the government in case of a tie in the number of state seats won by the contesting parties.

Terengganu, which has 32 state assembly seats, is one of the eight states where the total number of state seats make up an even number. The other states are Kedah (36), Penang (40), Selangor (56), Melaka (28), Johor (56), Pahang (42) and Sabah (48).

Abdul Hadi said the drawing of lots recommended by the EC could lead to abuse or cheating.

This method was also not democratic, he said.

"When the total number of votes by the people is taken, whatever the result, we will honour the rakyat's decision," he said.

Meanwhile, when asked to comment on the 'poster war' in the state which obviously was won by PAS, Abdul Hadi said some of the posters were made by the party supporters themselves.

"There are some supporters who buy (the posters) with their own money.

These include the mottoes written by the supporters themselves to the extent that we have to control them," he said.

Commenting on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's confidence that BN would recapture Terengganu, he said he and PAS were prepared to face defeat in the election.

This was because PAS was used to defeats and had wide experience in facing another defeat.

"We are used to defeats because we have been defeated throughout the general elections except for the last one. We have more experience in facing defeats than accepting victory," he told reporters here.

Meanwhile, Abdul Hadi claimed that Abdullah was still afraid to resolve corruption cases involving influential people which had occurred since Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's leadership era.

"In tackling problems on corruption, action is (only) taken on those whose influence have declined," he said.

-- BERNAMA
NM AO