

Pakatan to seek 1 mil signatures for democracy
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Pakatan Rakyat plans to launch a campaign to collect one million signatures for a bi-partisan Democratic Restoration Act to be presented to the Agong.

At its second convention in Kepala Batas today, the coalition said it will commence a drive from Jan 1 to end February next year to garner signatures.

In a declaration distributed to the media at the start of the one day event, Pakatan said it realises that time is running out to save the country, while the challenges ahead for the nation are monumental.

Pledging its loyalty to the King, people and country, the coalition invited the ruling Barisan Nasional to cooperate with them to establish the Act based on six important issues.

These include:

- * abolish all emergency declarations
- * repeal all anti-democratic laws
- * honour the agreement to form Malaysia together with Sabah and Sarawak
- * ensure the integrity of the general election
- * restore local government election and
- * establish freedom of the press

The Act, Pakatan says, guarantees that the country will immediately see strengthened unity and develop a competitive, high and stable economic performance, amongst others.

In its declaration, Pakatan stated that it is aware that the nation is facing a national crisis and is at the brink of a staggering disaster that will burden the rakyat.

Pakatan also warns of an economic crisis due to crony capitalism and corruption; a social crisis due to narrow racial policies; and a political crisis due to democratic fatigue arising from the BN's abuses of power.

Based on these mega-crises, Pakatan said it had decided to uphold a joint policy and welfare programme to defend the people based on four basic principles.

These include a transparent and real democracy, high and stable economic performance, social justice and human development and a close relationship between state-federal and international policies.

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