

MB's aide: S'gor is proof Pakatan can run Putrajaya
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The Selangor government's track record in managing the state's economy is proof that Pakatan Rakyat's policies are viable for the country.

Faekah Hussin (left), the political secretary to the Selangor menteri besar, said that the government had spent vast amounts of money on the state but its coffers were in good health.

"These problems did not make Selangor bankrupt. Instead, revenues have increased throughout 2010 and there is a balanced budget for 2011.

"This is far better than some BN-controlled states which tabled a deficit budget. In fact, the federal government had been tabling a deficit budget for 10 years.

"Pakatan's manifesto will not make Malaysia bankrupt if it is managed well, honestly, transparently and responsibly, such as what is being practiced in Selangor," she said.

Faekah was responding to Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin's claims that Pakatan's pledge to provide a RM500 special allowance to those in the public teaching sector would bankrupt the nation.

Track record

The pledge was among 10 promises which Pakatan said will be fulfilled within the first 100 days of conquering Putrajaya.

Faekah also listed down numerous achievements by the state government to prove that it was capable of managing the economy.

Among others, Faekah said that religious teachers have received a RM500 pay rise as well as a RM500 bonus for festivals and year-end bonuses.

She added that the state government, through Menteri Besar Incorporated, had successfully identified and collected RM392 million in debts from Talam Corporation Bhd owed since a decade ago, when BN ruled the state.

"As a result, RM50 million from this debt recovery exercise is being returned to the public through the Selangor Micro Credit Scheme (Skimsel) to help the rural poor while RM20 million was used to help the urban poor," she said.

1Malaysia vs real reforms

On the Federal Land Development Authority (Felda) schemes, Faekah said that the state had been working hard to "save" many failed projects and had resolved low-cost housing projects located in areas such as Bukit Botak, Ukay Perdana and Alam Perdana.

At an administrative level, she said the state government had established the Select

Committee on Competency, Accountability and Transparency (Selcat) to identify mismanagement and other administrative wrongdoings.

In addition, the state government had also succeeded in bringing greater public participation in the administration of the state through the Freedom of Information Enactment and becoming the first state in the country to have public hearings in all local governments.

Faekah said that all this, and others, were achieved with state revenues through proper management of the state resources without relying on the federal government.

"Muhyiddin can continue repeating his 'Malay first' commitment and repeat his 1Malaysia rhetoric but Pakatan will continue to do what it promised: Reforms through accountability and responsibility," she said.

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