

Electoral process is fair, says Nazri
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Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Mohamed Nazri Abdul Aziz said the handling of the election in the country is fair and on par with other countries.

Refuting an allegation by the opposition that the election process was unfair, he said the result of the 12th general election was proof of how transparent the election was in Malaysia.

"All this while there has been no problem in the handling of the election process in the country. There was no issue of fair or unfair (election). In fact, in the 2008 general election, BN lost many seats.

"This clearly shows that the election in the country is conducted well, but we understand the opposition. When they win, they say it is right, but when they lose, they say it's unfair," he added.

He said this in response to a supplementary question from Mohd Nasir Ibrahim Fikri (BN-Kuala Nerus) on the allegation of unfairness in the election process by the opposition.

Earlier, in response to an original question from Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah (BN-Gua Musang), Mohamed Nazri said a total of 657,141 new voters were registered until the first quarter of last year.

With the additional new voters, the number of registered voters had increased to 11,579,280 people from 10,922,139 in the 12th general election in 2008, he added.

He said Selangor recorded the highest number of new voters at 130,097 people, followed by Johor (87,235), Perak (70,780), Sarawak (59,282), Kelantan (49,246), Terengganu (43,387) and Kedah (39,396).

Penang recorded 39,261 new voters, Pahang (36,700), Sabah (29,876), Negeri Sembilan (26,503), Kuala Lumpur (21,574), Malacca (18,431), Perlis (3,062), Putrajaya (1,721) and Labuan (590), he added.

Tengku Razaleigh wanted to know the number of people who had registered as voters and the government's plan to get all citizens above 21 to register as voters.

Mohamed Nazri said efforts were continuously made by the Election Commission to get those eligible to vote to register as voters.

"Registration is open all year round. The Election Commission provides various channels to make it easy for the people to register, check their information and to inform the commission on the death of a voter," he added.

- Bernama

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