

Taib: Pakatan not qualified to run a state
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Sarawak Chief Minister Abdul Taib Mahmud clearly has no love for Pakatan Rakyat, frequently calling them "liars" and "under-qualified to run a state".

"They provide candidates who are not qualified and do not care about representing the people. The opposition lies in their promise to work for the people of Sarawak," he charged in his speech before launching the BN manifesto for the state elections in a community hall in Kampung Nyabor, Sibu, before 400 supporters yesterday.

Pointing to the ruckus in Pakatan Rakyat leading up to the nominations when seat allocations became a major bone of contention among the coalition parties, he said that it should be seen as a sign of how they will end up governing the state.

"It shows that they have no ability to form a good government. Even before contesting in elections, we can already see the way they choose their candidates.

They fight among themselves. After a few weeks after talking about who to field, every paper in Sarawak reported that they are in such disarray to the extent that Snap has left them," said Taib (left) who has held a firm grip on the state and his ruling party PBB for 30 years.

'100-day reform plan will bankrupt country'

He also lambasted Pakatan's 100-day reform plan - their promises over what they would do in the first 100 days upon forming the federal government should they win the 13th general election.

"Not only is the program not good, it's not practical. There is no input of talent and skill and no concern for the rakyat.

In fact, it's just a show to convince the rakyat who are generally skeptical of them forming a government," he said.

"This plan is a washout that will make country bankrupt in three or four years. Giving subsidies more than what is given now will bankrupt the country.

"If they know how to administer, then why do they have to propose candidates who are new and not qualified?" he asked, touching on the matter of candidates again.

The reform plan boasts a nine-point agenda, including the management of the country, economy and education.

He also poured scorn on the Pakatan led states voted in by the people in the 2008 general elections, claiming that they are not delivering on their promises made in the last polls.

"The state governments they have captured so far are not performing well. The promises made in the last elections cannot be delivered and then they said they did not promise it in the first place.

"What happened to the state governments of Penang, Selangor, Kelantan and Kedah? They are quiet now about their promises which they didn't deliver," he said, before unveiling his own manifesto promising to make Sarawak the richest state in the country by 2020.

The richest state in Malaysia currently is Selangor with Penang a close second.

"If we are serious in ensuring that the country is developed well, we must question the opposition's ability to deliver what they say. If they cannot deliver their promises made in the last elections, more so will they not deliver their promises made now for the people of Sarawak.

"Don't think Sarawakians are stupid and can be hoodwinked by outsiders with their new brand of politics of cursing and swearing to divert the people's attention.

"Their weakness is that they cannot govern properly, in the interests of the rakyat." said Taib.

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