

PKR: EC's registration answers unconvincing
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PKR vice-president Fuziah Salleh has shot down the Election Commission's (EC) explanation that the alleged electoral fraud seen in the double registration of voters was actually a genuine application to convert the status of an ordinary voter to absentee voter.

NONE "It seems quite obvious that the EC officer making the statement has been used as a scapegoat to cover up the illegal exercise being carried out by another 'system' in the EC," Fuziah (right) said in a statement today.

Yesterday, opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim furnished an example of the alleged fraud whereby Zarina Abu Tausi, a voter in Pulai, Johor already in the electoral roll was listed a pending new voter in Pekan, Pahang.

An EC officer has denied any elements of fraud, explaining that once the new absentee voter status is approved, Zarina's earlier registration will be removed from the system.

He added that the records appear concurrently because the fourth quarter electoral roll has only just been gazetted and the EC database has yet to be updated.

Inquiry must be initiated

However, Fuziah said this ran contrary to the normal EC procedures.

"The officer should know that the normal procedure for the EC in the case of registered voters who are applying to be absentee voters, will be first, to display the name to be deleted from the normal voter list and at the same time display the applicant's name in the new registration for the absentee voter.

NONE "Both deletion and the new registration must be displayed at the same time in the additional electoral roll on display at the end of every quarter. This action is part of the audit trail in ensuring the integrity of the electoral roll," she said.

Pointing out that there are 1,689 cases such as Zarina's in the fourth quarter alone, Fuziah said it cannot be ruled out that these voters can vote twice unless the EC comes clean.

"There must be an inquiry into the matter. An audit into the procedure and the system of the electoral roll must be allowed to take place," she said.

