

Umno man implicated in fraudulent voter registration

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By Ram Anand

An Umno member who was a former assistant registrar of voters for the Election Commission (EC) has been implicated in a non-consensual voter registration exercise.

These activities, the DAP claimed today, could have involved many voters over the years. Klang MP Charles Santiago said he and his team have traced the non-consensual registration of S Dinesh, a 32-year-old Malaysian currently residing in Britain, to a man who used to serve as assistant registrar for Umno.

These assistant registrars are political party members who help out in the registration of voters, with the endorsement from EC.

The man allegedly registered Dinesh in March 2012. Dinesh's father, S Sivakumar, said his son had never registered as a voter as he is now based in the United Kingdom.

Charles said checks with the Selangor EC showed that it was indeed this Umno member who had carried out the registration.

His role as an assistant registrar has since been terminated, allegedly for fraudulent voter registration, Charles further claimed.

He said he wants to know how many more of such fraudulent registrations have been carried out by the man, so as to ensure there are no discrepancies in the electoral roll.

"The problem here is that we need to know how many people were registered in a similar way by this man," he said.

So, how did he get info about Dinesh?

Charles also questioned how the Umno member obtained Dinesh's details and information that the latter was residing in the UK.

"No layman could have provided this information. It must have come from a government agency. And the agency that would have all this information is obviously the Immigration Department," he said.

Dinesh was registered as a voter on March 7, 2012 and checks with the EC reveal that he is now eligible to vote in Charles' parliamentary constituency of Klang and for the Kota Alam Shah state seat.

Charles said this could also be a case of impersonation and false information. "So, who was impersonating (Dinesh)?" he asked.

"The EC should file a police report and get the police to act against this assistant registrar," he said, adding that he would accompany Sivakumar to the Selangor EC office to demand full details on Dinesh's registration as a voter in an attempt to find out the person who had impersonated him.

Penang Deputy Chief Minister II P Ramasamy has also complained that his 25-year-old daughter, who also resides in the UK, has been registered as a voter without her knowledge.

Charles said he has received information about many other similar cases of citizens residing abroad being registered as voters in Malaysia, without their knowledge.

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