

Let DAP contest GE13, Umno veep appeals to ROS

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The DAP has found a rare alliance from the other side of the political divide over the Registrar of Societies' (ROS) decision not to recognise its central executive committee (CEC).

Umno vice-president Ahmad Zahid Hamidi today appealed to the ROS not to ban the DAP leadership from fielding its candidates and using its rocket logo in the upcoming general election.

"In my view, they should be allowed and given power to field their candidates because we don't want the government to be accused of using the ROS to kill democracy.

"I think we should have an open, transparent and fair election so the current government will not be accused by negative allegations, and I think the people can think rationally," Ahmad Zahid (left) told reporters after meeting some 600 army personnel and veterans at the Tebrau army camp in Johor Bahru this afternoon.

"I am not interfering with the decision of the ROS, but personally, I think they (DAP) should be allowed to field their candidates," he reiterated, adding that the same goes for the use of the rocket logo.

It was reported earlier this afternoon that the ROS had sent a letter to DAP, informing the party that its CEC is not recognised. The letter - dated yesterday - is being widely circulated on the Internet, although its authenticity has yet to be verified by either DAP or ROS.

As of now, it is still not clear on whether the de-recognition of the top DAP leadership will affect the use of the DAP logo by the party's candidates on nomination day, which is just two days away.

However, Election Commission (EC) chairperson Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusoff (right) had later confirmed that DAP will be able to field their candidates as usual on nomination day, regardless of the ROS' decision to suspend the party's central committee.

Elaborating on his stance, Ahmad Zahid said that although DAP has violated the guidelines of the ROS, the latter should not take action against the party to avoid

the speculation that the ruling coalition is behind the decision.

He stressed that regardless of which logo DAP uses in the general election, its candidates will still be rejected by the people.

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