

BN gov't gave Sabah beyond Pakatan's 20pct oil royalty

MalaysiaKini.com

April 22, 2013

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Special funds from the BN federal government to Sabah has gone beyond the 20 percent of oil royalty promised by Pakatan Rakyat to the state if it takes over Putrajaya.

And a BN win in Sabah will see a continuation of such policies, Sabah BN told voters in its manifesto launched by BN state chief Musa Aman (right) today.

"(We will) continue to give special cash payments and grants for the operational and development expenses (of the state) above and beyond 20 percent of oil obtained from Sabah," he said to applause.

Launching the manifesto at the Umno Sabah headquarters in Karamuning, he said that BN will also "continue to uphold, progress and protect the 20-point Agreement".

The agreement was signed by Sabah when it joined Malaya and Sarawak to form Malaysia in 1963.

Without elaborating, Musa, who has been dogged with allegations of abuse of power relating to timber concessions, said that the BN will eradicate corruption if it is voted back into power in Sabah.

Poverty rate

Sabah BN also vowed to bring the poverty rate to three percent in the next five years through empowerment programmes and alleviate the urban-rural gap by improving connectivity and continuing to control the price of basic goods.

Also noted in the 16-point manifesto was BN's track record in governing the Borneo state.

Among others it said the BN-led Sabah government had raised reserves from only RM100 million in 2001 to RM3 billion today, garnering the highest revenue of RM4.4 billion in 2011.

It added that it had among others also reduced poverty rates from 19.7 percent in 2009 to 8.1 percent in 2012 and provided electricity to close to 500,000 homes and

potable water to more than 380,000 homes.

"These are not populist or things that are up in the air...God willing these can be done...and will benefit all, including the opposition," he said.

However, when asked later, Musa did not elaborate on why the opposition's manifesto is "fantastical".

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