

Soi Lek blames violence on Pakatan's 'politics of hatred'

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By Nigel Aw

MCA president Chua Soi Lek has blamed Pakatan Rakyat for allegedly sowing hatred against BN as the cause behind the attacks against the ruling coalition's general election operations rooms.

"That (political violence), I can understand, because the opposition encourages and practices politics of hatred against the BN," he told a press conference after a walkabout in Jementah, Segamat this afternoon.

Chua (in blue shirt) was responding to the recent bomb incident at Nibong Tebal and arson attempts in Sekinchan and Buntong, all of which were targeted the BN's operations rooms.

Chua warned that if the opposition coalition continues to be aggressive it may provoke further reaction.

"If they practise aggression, then maybe our members will also not be able to control themselves and react the same way, then this country may descend into chaos," he said.

However, Chua said MCA has not made any effort to increase security at its own operations room as it still "believed in the wisdom of the opposition members".

This morning, two cars belonging to the daughter of PKR's incumbent Sri Andalas state assemblyperson Xavier Jeyakumar were also torched.

'20,000 is impossible'

Commenting on Pakatan's ceramah in Segamat on Wednesday, Chua rubbished claims that 20,000 people had turned up.

"That field cannot take in 20,000 people, we had a dinner two months ago and it can take at most 4,000 people if they are sitting and at most 6,000 to 8,000 if they are standing, no way it can take 20,000 people," he said.

Chua added if MCA wanted, it can similarly pull off the same feat.

"It is not that difficult to get 20,000 people, MCA can also do it, we just need to mobilise people in Sekijang, Ledang, Bakri, Labis, Muar, if each one MCA sends 1,000 people, we'll get a large number, not counting Umno yet.

"We'll even be able to get a more multiracial crowd than them (Pakatan) which only had mostly Chinese and is a dangerous trend of political division," he added.

On Chinese support for MCA, Chua said it was difficult to evaluate as they would normally decide at the last minute, but he was confident about the support from the Malay and Indian community.

He also declined to evaluate how many parliamentary seats MCA could win in this general election, stating that unlike the opposition, MCA does not boast.

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