

Penang appoints coordinators for BN constituencies

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By Susan Loone

The Penang government has appointed coordinators for constituencies won by the BN because its assemblypersons are not cooperating with the state government, Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng said today.

The tasks of these coordinators include serving the constituents, even if they did not vote for Pakatan Rakyat.

The coordinators are Asrol Sani Abdul Razak (Bertam), Muhasdey Muhamad (Pinang Tunggal), Ridwan Osman (Penaga), Zahadi Mohammad (Sungai Dua), Norhayati Jaafar (Telok Ayer Tawar), Mohammad Razak (Sungai Aceh), Mohd Tuah Ismail Ismail (Pulau Betong), Abdul Halim Hussain (Teluk Bahang) and Asnah Hashim (Bayan Lepas).

The coordinators will be placed in constituencies won by the BN to offer services to the people and not to capture votes in the next general election, Lim said.

"We will take care of the seats won by the opposition as well, and we will treat everyone fairly," he said before handing over appointment letters to 10 coordinators at his office in Komtar.

"We have to do this because after five years, the BN representatives still do not want to work with us," he lamented.

Asked to cite an example of what he means by non-cooperation from BN assemblypersons, Lim said they had been invited to be part of the state's working committees since 2008 and have refused, without giving any reason, despite official letters being sent to them.

The coordinators are paid RM2,500 each and will be provided with an office and an assistant, he added.

"Their job is to attend to complaints from the constituents and also ensure that senior citizens and single mothers get to benefit from the state's policies, such as the annual cash award of RM100 each," Lim said.

Lim said the coordinators are proposed by their respective political parties, which will evaluate the performance of the coordinators.

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