

Idris Jusoh asks PAS not to contest Kuala Besut polls

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By Ram Anand

Education Minister II Idris Jusoh said today there is "no need" for PAS to contest the Kuala Besut by-election because there should be "less politicking" after the recent general election.

idris jusoh pc 250308 02Speaking to reporters at the Parliament lobby today, Idris (right), a former Terengganu menteri besar, said the Kuala Besut state seat should be returned to BN due to the ruling coalition's handsome majority there in the May 5 general election.

"They (PAS) need 1,200 votes extra to win the election. It's not easy to change the people's thinking. PAS doesn't know how to find a candidate," he said.

Idris was also bullish about his knowledge about the state constituency.

"I am the MP for that area, so I know the place. I am the division chief," the Besut MP added.

In an immediate response, Terengganu PAS chief Mohd Abdul Wahid Endut said Idris' position showed that Umno was afraid of PAS pulling off an upset victory.

Abdul Wahid said that PAS had done so before, during the Kuala Terengganu by-election in 2009, which he won.

"We have experienced that. We want to create history yet again," he said when contacted.

However, Idris said, "The election ended not more than two months ago. It's better not to have this by-election. BN had won this place recently, so just give this place back to BN."

He said the fasting month of Ramadan, which begins this week, and BN's win in the seat on May 5 "have to be respected".

"You (journalists) also don't have to work much. It's fasting month. Winning (by PAS) is not easy," he claimed.

Idris also said BN's majority in the state seat could increase to up to 4,000 votes because he, as the MP for the constituency, has been made education minister.

"Their member of parliament is now education minister II. The people are proud of it. People in Besut should feel grateful and thankful because recognition has been given to them," Idris added.

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