

Football or mosques, MB asks PAS Youth

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By Ahmad Fadli KC

Some football-crazed fans will not even bat an eyelid when confronted with choosing between football and a mosque. But for PAS Youth, this will be a difficult, if not impossible, decision to make.

NONEThe option for the Selangor PAS Youth to choose between football and mosques was put forth by Selangor Menteri Besar Khalid Ibrahim.

He was responding to the criticism by Selangor PAS Youth that the state investment authority Menteri Besar Incorporated (MBI) was not forking out enough funds for the local football team.

"If my friends in PAS Youth wish to know, the yearly allocation for football is more than the money spent to build a mosque. This means we spend more than RM7 million a year.

"So, does PAS Youth want us to build mosques or encourage football. Make the choice," Khalid told Malaysiakini this afternoon.

Because of the lack of funds, PAS Youth said that several star players in the Selangor football squad were being courted by other teams.

Yesterday, PAS Selangor Youth deputy chief Mohd Sany Hamzan criticised the lack of funding from MBI, which resulted in players like Amri Yahyah, Norazlan Razali, Mahalli Jasuli and Asraruddin Putra Omar being lured by the Johor football club.

Mohd Sany said the lack of funding could lead to these players moving to other clubs and rendering the Selangor team, once considered a football giant in Malaysia, as a weak squad.

Selangor has 32 Malaysia Cup titles, seven division one titles, two division two titles, five FA Cup titles and eight charity shield titles tucked under its belt.

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