

PKR demands EC prove ink works before Kajang polls

MalaysiaKini.com

Feb 8, 2014

PKR will demand the Election Commission (EC) to show proof that the indelible ink, which is to be used in the Kajang by-election, works before heading to the March 23 polls.

"We will push for the EC to show proof (of this) so the by-election results will not fall into the same controversy as the 13th general election," said PKR vice-president Nurul Izzah Anwar (left).

This follows Pakatan Rakyat's failure to nullify the 13th general election.

It was reported that the High Court yesterday upheld the EC's preliminary objection against Pakatan's claim that the failure of the indelible ink could have led to electoral fraud.

In its findings, the court said that an election can only be nullified by an Election Court and not a Civil Court, and that it is unfair that none of those who won in the election had been named as parties to the hearing.

Pakatan's suit was supported by testimonies of voters who had found that the indelible ink placed on their fingers came off easily after they voted.

"Last year (PKR vice-president) Tian Chua and I met with the Federal Territories EC secretary and sought to test the ink (before the polls), but we had been refused.

"I don't think the EC has a reason to refuse us this time," she said.

She added that Pakatan's efforts to bring the matter to court also showed that the coalition was using all available civil avenues.

The ink was actually tested by the bipartisan parliamentary select committee on elections prior to May 5, 2013, but the batch used did not wear off as quickly as the one applied in the general polls.

One of the many individuals who lodged a police report over the faded ink was Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) pilot Major Zaidi Ahmad (right) who has been charged in the Military Court over the issue.

Yesterday he plead not guilty for five charges under the Armed Forces Act 1972, which deals in non-compliance with an order from a superior office.

"We will do everything we can to support him," Nurul Izzah, who is also Lembah Pantai MP, told reporters at her Chinese New Year open house in Taman Sentosa, Kuala Lumpur.

Nurul breaks silence on Kajang

Responding to a separate matter, Nurul Izzah dismissed Selangor DAP chief Tony Pua's claim that Pakatan will be dead if PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim loses the Kajang by-election.

"Ups and downs are normal political dynamics. While Anwar was in prison until 2004, people said 'Reformasi' was dead," she quipped, referring to her party's battlecry.

Breaking her silence on the controversial by-election which was willfully triggered by the party, she however said that Pua's remark underscores the importance of this by-election.

"I also appreciate the statement by PAS president (Abdul Hadi Awang, in stating that PAS will support PKR's campaign) and now my job is to work with the grassroots leaders," she said.

Nurul Izzah was fawned over at the open house, with some of the elderly attendees calling her 'leng lui' (pretty girl).

The well-attended open house was also graced by her parents, Anwar (left) and party president Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

In his brief speech, Anwar urged the mostly Chinese attendees to unite against extremists like those who threatened violence against DAP's Seputeh MP Teresa Kok.

"Chinese, Malays, Indians and Kadazans should all stand united to fight this group," he said.

He also reiterated his stand that the Muslim NGOs who smeared chicken blood onto pictures of Kok and three other Chinese Pakatan reps did not act in an Islamic manner.

"This is not the Malay Muslim way, but that of bad and 'xiao ren' (despicable people).

"Respect Malays and Muslims, this is not our way," he stressed.

Copyright © 1999-2012 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd

Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/253819>