

'PPS are DAP militants used to do party work'

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Penang's voluntary patrol squad (PPS) has now been accused of being "DAP militants" as the team have been found to be doing the party's work, claims an opposition leader.

Parti Cinta Malaysia's (PCM) Huan Cheng Guan said the group was seen to be involved in party activities such as putting up DAP flags during the recent Bukit Gelugor by-election.

Huan, a former Batu Kawan MP, was a candidate in Bukit Gelugor but lost the polls to Ramkarpal Singh, in a four-cornered fight which included two Independent candidates.

Huan challenged claims by the state government that the PPS was "non-political".

He also questioned the need for them to carry batons and sticks, slamming the group for flouting the law when parking their containers on pedestrian walkways or by the roadside.

Huan said the group was akin to PAS' unit amal (security unit) and PKR's Solidariti Anak Muda Malaysia, which comprise mostly youths.

"We don't have a problem with DAP having such a group but why are they paid with state money?" he asked at a press conference today.

"Why not use their (DAP) funds, for if they do so, then they can use the PPS for their own work," he said.

The PPS, a uniformed group chaired by Phee Boon Poh (left), state executive councillor for caring society and welfare, was in the spotlight after businessman Ong Eu Soon, 51 lodged a police report claiming he was assaulted by two men in PPS uniforms while attending a dinner at a temple in Air Itam.

The duo - Lee Yew Kuan, 66, and Lee Chan Kwong, 35, counter-claimed that it was Ong who hit them first.

Last week, Bernama reported that Phee had denied that gangsters were involved in the PPS, saying that they "were being made scapegoat by certain individuals to criticise the policies of the state government".

'PPS not registered with ROS'

Meanwhile, Huan alleged that the PPS is an "illegal entity" as it is not registered with the Registrar of Societies.

During the press conference, Huan showed a letter from ROS dated Aug 21 addressed to him, stating that the PPS was not a registered body.

“Tell us which enactment or law approved the PPS, and when was it passed in the Penang legislative assembly?” Huan asked.

“Even if approved by the state assembly, it still needs to be registered under the ROS,” he added.

“No one can simply start their own security force or army. What is the role of this group? Is it just to protect the chief minister, his state executive councillors and their families?” he queried.

Huan said letters would be sent to the relevant authorities like the Attorney-General’s Chambers and Home Ministry, urging the two departments to act on his queries.

However, Huan said he had nothing personal against the PPS, adding that some of the members were “good”. However, he told the state government to comply with the law when forming the group.

He added that several reports have been lodged against the PPS, urging the police to probe the group over the queries he had highlighted.

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