

## **EC: Nothing wrong in appointing Jasa personnel**

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**By Zikri Kamarulzaman**

The Election Commission has denied any wrongdoing in the appointment of Department of Special Affairs (Jasa) personnel as voter registrars.

EC chairperson Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusof also denied claims that NGO members were not allowed to act as assistant registrar officers (ARO).

"That is wrong, Jasa is a government department, we always pick people from government agencies to be AROs," he told reporters at a press conference in Putrajaya.

"NGO members are also appointed to become AROs. I can't remember the exact figure, but there are a lot (of NGO registrars).

"Same goes for post office (workers) and universities," he added.

This however contradicted previous reports that EC had stopped appointing NGO and opposition party members as AROs after the 13th general election.

Electoral reform group Bersih yesterday questioned why Jasa members who are linked to BN were however allowed to become registrars.

They said the appointments had raised questions about EC's credibility.

Abdul Aziz however maintained that this is normal practice.

"There are many departments from all ministries (from which) we appoint assistant registrars," he said.

Jasa is a propaganda unit under the Communications and Multimedia Ministry.

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