

RM15 mil blown on cops for two by-elections
Malaysiakini.com
July 09, 2010

The Home Ministry admitted yesterday that millions of ringgit were spent on the deployment of police officers to maintain order during the Hulu Selangor and Sibü parliamentary by-elections.

Home Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said a total of RM10,547,995 was spent during the April 25 Hulu Selangor by-election.

"However, only RM4,561,634 was used for security matters in Sibü during the by-election," he added.

hishammuddin hussein keeping mumAs for the number of police involved, Hishammuddin (right) said 4,009 officers and men, including a special branch team, were put on duty during the Hulu Selangor by-election while 1,737 were assigned during the May 16 Sibü by-election.

The minister said this in his written reply in the Dewan Rakyat to Hee Loy Sian (PKR-Petaling Jaya Selatan), who had asked for the number of police officers involved during the two by-elections.

However, Hee said later that the heavy police presence and huge amount of money spent were a 'total waste'.

In a press statement, he questioned the relevance of spending such huge sums of money on security, saying the people were mature enough to handle by-elections.

During the Kuala Terengganu by-election, a staggering sum of RM15 million was spent by the Royal Malaysian Police Force to deploy 3,376 officers and men to maintain order and ensure a smooth election.

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Source : <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/136843>