

**DAP did not consult us over 'sweeteners', say PKR, PAS
Malaysiakini.com
August 18, 2010**

PKR and PAS leaders today admitted they were not consulted about the Putrajaya promises pledged by the DAP should Pakatan capture Putrajaya.

Pakatan coordinator Zaid Ibrahim (left), when contacted by Malaysiakini, said he himself is in the dark about the matter.

"I don't know for sure if those measures were agreed to at the (Pakatan) leadership level. But it's unlikely DAP would make the announcement without the agreement of PAS and opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim," he said.

Asked if DAP should have focused on more important matters instead of the promises some deem populist, Zaid said that Pakatan remains committed to more serious pledges like eradicating corruption and abuse of power.

"However, some populist ones (promises) can do no harm," said Zaid.

Similarly, PKR secretary-general Saifuddin Nasution made it clear that DAP's announcement last Friday has not yet been finalised or approved by the opposition coalition.

"As of now it remains the DAP's suggestion," he clarified.

Looking at DAP's promises however, Saifuddin said that he does not see any hurdles in Pakatan adopting those recommendations.

'Did not deviate'

PAS vice-president Salahuddin Ayob concurred, saying that the principle of 'negeri berkeadilan' or a state which takes care of the people's welfare, has remained a core Pakatan philosophy.

"While the details have not been finalised yet, DAP's promises did not deviate from that Pakatan principle."

In fact, Salahuddin (right) added, should Pakatan be allowed to rule the country, they would be able to do more to help the people as they will be able to save more money by eradicating leakages and corruption prevalent in the BN government.

Another PAS vice-president, Mahfuz Omar, while admitting to Malaysiakini that the Islamic party was not consulted by the DAP about their announcement, said that it was nothing to shout about.

'No controversy'

"This is no controversy, it is not like the proposal to abolish the 30 percent bumiputera requirement as proposed by MCA president Chua Soi Lek."

"Umno was sweating when the MCA president made the proposal," he sniped.

He explained that whatever that DAP promised tallies with PAS's principle of helping the people, and all that is done to help the people is good.

However, he said that for an announcement such as this, which reflects on Pakatan's commitments as a whole, a consensus should have been reached first.

NONE" It would have been better if an announcement like this which affects Pakatan as a whole be made by the top Pakatan leadership together," concluded Mahfuz.

Last Friday, DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng (left) announced that should Pakatan capture Putrajaya in the next polls, the party promises to give RM1,000 to senior citizens, provide free Wi-Fi access and abolish the saman ekor and Road Transport Department blacklist.

However, despite the consternation of PAS and PKR leaders over the promises, Lim said that he had cleared things with Anwar before making his announcement.

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Source : <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/140386>