

Soi Lek: Some Umno grassroots 'not very smart'
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A recent video clip making its rounds on the Internet, depicting an Umno division leader's speech on how the party does not need Chinese and Indian votes, is unlikely to sway Chinese voters in the Galas by-election, said MCA president Dr Chua Soi Lek.

He said that such leaders do not represent the mainstream view among Umno's top leadership.

NONE "If we want a definite answer, ask the prime minister. The prime minister clearly promotes Malaysia with policies for every ethnic group. This is very clear," he told reporters when met in Gua Musang town today.

Chua (right in pic) added that the MCA would not support these non-mainstream grassroots leaders and even recommend to the Umno leadership that they not be fielded as candidates in the general election.

He said that such Umno leaders do not act in the spirit of BN which looks after the interests of all ethnic groups.

"This (video clip) tells us that there are some Umno grassroots leaders who are not politically savvy. They are not very smart. We will report back to the prime minister.

"They should not come out (in public). We will pursue this. They should not represent BN and should retire and go home," said Chua.

Video circulated on YouTube

Chua was commenting on a video clip depicting a speech by Titiwangsa Umno division chief Johari Abdul Ghani at the Putra World Trade Centre and at an unspecified date.

NONE Johari said that for Umno to retain the Titiwangsa Parliamentary seat, it merely has to ensure 70 percent of the Malay vote there.

"Gentlemen. If you secure 70 percent of the 32,000 Malay vote, then we won't need Chinese and Indian votes," said Johari, triggering applause from his audience.

"If we want to win in Titiwangsa, we want Malays (to vote for us). We want Malays. Don't bow down to the Chinese and Indians just because we want to win. Don't do it," he said.

At the time of writing, the video hosted on YouTube has generated almost 50,000 views and more than 600 comments, mostly condemning Johari.

MCA distributing PAS' constitution

Meanwhile, Chua revealed that his party has been distributing a Mandarin translation of PAS' constitution throughout the Galas constituency.

He said this was an attempt to educate the Chinese voters about the implications of an Islamic state, which PAS has repeatedly stated was their ultimate goal.

"So you talk about Umno not requiring Chinese votes, but if you look at the PAS constitution, PAS does not respect the fact that Malaysia is a multiracial country with various religions and sensitivities," he said.

He asked if the Chinese community was willing to stay in an environment which only emphasises on one religion resulting in a country based solely on Islamic values, education, laws and economy.

"I don't think the Chinese are aware of this implication. They think an Islamic state just means they cannot eat this or that. They are simplifying things," said Chua.

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