

Ali Rustam Warns About DAP Strategy In Fielding Malay Candidates

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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 3 (Bernama) -- Umno Supreme Council member Datuk Seri Mohamed Ali Rustam has warned Umno and Barisan Nasional (BN) members to be wary of the latest strategy by the DAP in fielding Malay candidates to contest in the next general election.

Mohamed Ali, who is also the Melaka Chief Minister, believed that with the latest strategy, the DAP would no longer be depending on PAS to woo the Malay support in winning the seats contested by the opposition pact.

"The DAP has succeeded in defeating PAS for its own interest. We want to see how the DAP will field candidates in PAS areas while PAS fields candidates in DAP areas.

"Whatever it does, it's not possible the party can succeed and the BN is ready to face this latest tactic. This is a new trend and a new game," he told Bernama in an exclusive interview, here Saturday.

Mohamed Ali, who is also the Bukit Katil Umno division head, believed the DAP's objective was to overtake PAS and use the same tactic as the one adopted by the PAP in Singapore to divide the Malays there.

He also wanted to see how far the strategy would succeed because the DAP supposedly believed the people would follow blindly.

"But I believe the people are smart...they will make the best evaluation for the future of our country, we cannot gamble away the future of our country," he said.

He said the latest strategy of the opposition was also perceived to be a major challenge to Umno and the BN besides the challenge posed by the social media which were seen as the reason for the loss of the ruling party in several states in the 2008 general election.

"I hope the voters will adopt a moderate attitude (wasatiyyah) and place priority on solidarity and the future of the country and not to dance to the tune of the DAP," he said.

For example, he said, the insult to the Malays on May 13, 1969, labelling an Umno leader as 'metallic black' and the party's proposal to reduce the number of civil servants if it came to power, clearly showed that the DAP was anti-Malays.

He said if the party were to be in power, Malaysia would no longer enjoy stability and harmony because the party's arrogance could lead to a feeling of hatred between the various races and jeopardised the future of the country.

In addition, there would also be a clash of value system because morality was no longer a consideration for the opposition as it supported the 'Seksualiti Merdeka' programme recently whereas Umno and the BN had always defended noble and oriental values, he said.

Mohamed Ali said the opposition should also not dream of wresting Johor, Melaka and Negeri Sembilan from the BN in the next general election.

"They have to look after the states they control. It is learnt that Kelantan may fall (to the BN), so too will Kedah and Selangor, if they want to defend, it will only be Penang. I believe if the Penang Umno and BN people work hard, we can wrest Penang too," he said.

He hoped that Umno and the BN would not despair in wresting the states from the opposition pact because anything could happen by citing as an example the recapture of the Kota Melaka parliamentary seat after it was held by the DAP for 34 years.

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