

Leaders' Criticisms Show PAS Has Deviated From Its Struggles

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PASIR PUTEH, Dec 23 (Bernama) -- Criticisms by several PAS leaders show that the party which purportedly is championing the cause of Islam has deviated from its struggles and is bowing to its ally, the DAP.

International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said if the party had frequently claimed that Umno deliberately "cooked up such stories" in the past, now the criticisms came from the past leaders themselves which proved that the scenario was true.

"I'm confident more and more Malays will realise the mistake made by PAS which has deviated from its original struggles to set up an Islamic state, but because it is bowing down to the DAP, the party eventually changed the concept to a welfare state," he told reporters after a meeting with Pasir Putih Umno division leaders and members, here today.

The issue that PAS has deviated from its struggles was raised by the Chairman of the Selangor State Committee on Religious Affairs, Malay Culture, Infrastructure and Public Utility, Datuk Dr Hasan Ali recently, who rejected the concept of a welfare state by PAS and instead wanted the party to return to its original struggles to set up an Islamic state.

Besides Hasan, another PAS leader who criticised the party was the party's former deputy president, Nasharudin Mat Isa.

Commenting on the issue, Mustapa, who is also the Kelantan Umno liaison chairman, said the state Umno would explain on the real situation to the people of Kelantan so that they could judge what PAS really stood for.

Meanwhile, Mustapa was happy with the attitude of the Umno members throughout the state who were highly motivated to mobilise the party machinery to face the 13th general election.

At another function, he said the federal government had utilised more than RM15 million to build and repair mosques in Kelantan during the past three years.

He said these included the mosques in the Machang, Ketereh and Gua Musang parliamentary constituencies.

"We are still receiving more requests for this purpose," he told reporters after handing out a cheque worth RM500,000 to repair the Kampung Pulau Lama mosque, here.

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