

PAS Youth wants EC restructured, top officials dropped before GE
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KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 21 — PAS Youth chief Nasrudin Hassan said today confidence in the Election Commission (EC) can only be restored if the body is restructured with its chairman Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusof and deputy Datuk Wira Wan Ahmad Wan Omar replaced before the next general election.

He stressed the country cannot face the elections under the current EC leadership as the body is handicapped in terms of trust and public confidence. The Najib administration said last week it was forming a bi-partisan parliamentary select committee for electoral reforms, five weeks after the Bersih July 9 rally calling for free and fair elections.

PAS Youth urges that one of these options is implemented before its too late.

“Elections will have no meaning if its organiser is not transparent and its judges unfair. Before we are ridiculed internationally and the people lose confidence and trust in the EC,” he said at a gather of the Anti Apostasy Action Front and the EC Bias Removal in Georgetown last night.

In recent weeks, PAS, under the wing of Pakatan Rakyat, has launched repeated attacks on the integrity of the EC and also claimed the panel members did not show neutrality but favoured ruling party Barisan Nasional (BN).

Nasrudin (picture) also highlighted the special select committee on electoral reforms as announced by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Najib Razak on Monday.

In regards to the select committee, Nasrudin said doubts on its effectiveness will continue without the involvement of all the contesting parties including non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and independent monitoring.

However, he said, PAS Youth must be ready to face any forms of attack from the opponent and take any effective measure to win in the upcoming GE.

“PAS Youth must have the basic strength as outlined by the Youth Department of Elections to ensure the chances of winning the elections are greater and higher as we continue to fight for a fair and transparent electoral system,” Nasrudin said.

“Do not delay and defer work as this will be costly during the last minutes before we face elections,” he added.

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