

PAS steering committee an admission of failure

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ALOR SETAR: The steering committee set up by PAS to monitor the implementation of the party's manifesto in Kedah is proof of the state government's failure to fulfil its election promises, state Umno chief Datuk Ahmad Bashah Md Hanipah said.

Looking at the list of committee members and its roles, he said, he did not see any serious action being taken to resolve issues in the state, even more so when outsiders, who did not understand the state's politics, were included in the committee.

"What the Barisan Nasional said earlier that the Kedah PAS had failed to meet its manifesto is indeed true, as a committee has to be set up to monitor the state government so that it implements what had been promised," he said here Tuesday.

PAS announced Monday the setting up the committee comprising five PAS leaders led by former Kelantan deputy menteri besar Datuk Halim Abdul Rahman.

The committee was set up following a internal crisis in the PAS-led state government which saw two executive council members refusing to be reappointed to their posts. - Bernama

Meanwhile, Gurun MCA assemblyman Dr Leong Yong Kong said the steering committee was completely against the state constitution.

According to Dr. Leong, the idea of a steering committee monitoring the state government was an "absurd concept" and should not have been conceived at all.

"As a wakil rakyat, I completely object to this unconstitutional move," Dr Leong said in a press statement Tuesday.

"We Kedahans uphold the state constitution that the Menteri Besar and his excos hold the executive, while the elected Assemblymen hold the legislature. The person to whom the Menteri Besar has to consult and defer on state matters is the Sultan of Kedah and not the steering committee."

Dr Leong called for the steering committee of non-Kedahans to "return to (their) own state" and look after the welfare of their own constituencies, instead of meddling with Kedah's constitution.

"DAP and PKR should go back until they relearn the state constitution," Dr Leong said.

He added that as reiterated by MCA, the mute response by DAP and PKR state assemblymen on the matter showed deferential obeisance to the decisions by a hardline political party (PAS) in state administration.

This, he said, debunked DAP stalwart Lim Kit Siang's maxim that all Pakatan parties enjoyed an equal relationship within Pakatan.

"How come neither DAP nor PKR excos in Kedah, nor their state assemblymen, have opposed the PAS steering committee monitoring them? Do they even know the state constitution?" Dr Leong asked.

He said the steering committee's rejection of DAP and PKR elected representatives revealed PAS had no confidence or trust in the governance by the Mentri Besar and his excos.

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