

PAS Members Should Look At Themselves Before Calling Pm A Coward - Ahmad Bashah
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ALOR SETAR, Feb 3 (Bernama) -- PAS members who have called Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak a coward for not announcing the date of the general election yet, should instead ask the opposition leaders to hold the elections in states they control first.

Kedah Umno liaison chief Datuk Ahmad Bashah Md Hanipah said announcing when the general election would be held was the prime minister's prerogative.

"In this matter, Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Azizan Abdul Razak understands better as he had said that it was his right to announce the dissolution of the state assembly. Only the PAS members don't seem to understand.

"We (Barisan Nasional) has no problems if they (opposition) want to dissolve the state assemblies (in the states they control) now, but what's wrong with holding the general election simultaneously when the current term ends this April?"

He said this when asked to comment on some PAS leaders saying that Najib was scared to hold the elections now.

Young PAS leader Ahmad Izzat Mohamad Shauki, who is also Kedah state assembly deputy speaker, at a ceramah at the Kedah Sejahtera Carnival for the Pokok Sena parliamentary constituency recently, had labelled the prime minister a coward, claiming that the latter feared the people's support for the opposition coalition, hence was delaying the general election.

Ahmad Bashah, who is also Bakar Bata assemblyman, was met by reporters while watching the handing-out of the Bantuan Rakyat 1Malaysia (BR1M) for the Bakar Bata constituency at the Federal Building hall in Anak Bukit, here, today.

On Kedah BN's chances of wresting back the state from the opposition, he said people's acceptance of and support for BN had changed for the better.

"I hope the situation remains and the voters will largely be on our side. Perhaps it's a strategy of the prime minister to delay the elections to give more time for the people to evaluate the BN government," he added.

On Azizan's claim that except for Bayu assemblyman Datuk Azmi Hussein, the other invited BN elected representatives had boycotted the official opening of Kolej Universiti Insaniah (Kuin) in Kuala Ketil by Yang diPertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah on Jan 29, Ahmad Bashah said it was a lie.

"When BN ruled Kedah, we invited them (opposition leaders) to our events but they did not attend. We understood that they themselves could be tied up with their own programmes...and it was the same with us," he said.

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