

Culprits Responsible For Explosion In Nibong Tebal Must Be Brought To Justice - Muhyiddin
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JOHOR BAHRU, April 24 (Bernama) -- Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin is taking a serious view of the explosion at a Barisan Nasional (BN) ceramah in Nibong Tebal last night and wants the culprits to be brought to justice.

He said the incident, in which a security personnel was injured, was most saddening as the explosion occurred when a BN leader was speaking at a ceramah.

"There are indications to suggest that the culprits have used a bomb. I hope the police can identify the culprits and charge them in court soon as the incident has occurred during the general election campaign period," said Muhyiddin, who is also BN deputy chairman, to reporters when asked to comment on the explosion.

The explosion occurred behind the stage of the Nibong Tebal BN election operations room when Penang Gerakan chairman Datuk Dr Teng Hock Nan was speaking at a ceramah.

A security personnel on duty at the area sustained injuries on his right leg when hit by shrapnel.

At today's event, Muhyiddin handed offer letters for affordable homes to former residents of Rumah Rakyat Tampoi and Denai Permai.

Also present at the gathering were BN's candidate for the Pulai parliamentary seat Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed, the coalition's aspirants for the Permas state seat Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin and for the Kempas state seat Tengku Putera Haron Aminurrashid Tengku Hamid Jumat.

Muhyiddin said the explosion could instil fear among the people to come out to vote on May 5 or to attend ceramah organised by political parties.

"The BN's message to the people, through ceramah, may not reach them if the people, particularly voters, are reluctant to attend ceramah sessions.

"We take a serious view of the explosion," he said.

Muhyiddin said that even though this general election was different with more challenges than previous polls, elections in Malaysia have been always peaceful.

"Last night's explosion must be handled well. I hope the explosion is not the beginning to many more such incidents. It has to be handled well," said the deputy prime minister.

When asked on Kelantan PAS' promise to implement several offers if the state government received oil royalty from Petronas, Muhyiddin said PAS should not make promises if the party cannot honour them.

"If they cannot keep their promises, they should not make promises. They should promise only on matters that they can deliver to the people but PAS makes promises merely to influence voters.

"I feel they're feeling threatened in Kelantan and that's why they're coming up with all sorts of offers and promises," he said.

Muhyiddin said the BN had given adequate explanations to the Kelantan people on what the BN would do for them if the coalition was mandated to form the state government.

"What the BN promises, we'll deliver," he added.

In BAGAN DATOH, Defence Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi hoped the mastermind responsible for the explosion would be identified soon and charged in court.

The explosion was intended to instil fear among voters was not the political culture in Malaysia, he told reporters after meeting Kampung Sungai Pulau residents here today.

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