

**Soi Lek likens Anwar to Pak Lah, says only interested in Islam**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, April 26 — Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek warned voters not to put Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim in power, saying a Pakatan Rakyat (PR) government would be similar to Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's administration that was only engrossed in Islamic affairs.

The MCA president took to the stump in Segamat today, repeating his party's massive advertising campaign in its media that warned of a puritan Islamic administration under PR but continued stability and prosperity under Barisan Nasional (BN) chairman Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

"When Pak Lah led the country, every day he would talk about Islam Hadhari (progressive Islam) but never about the economy, because Pak Lah's (Islamic studies) background is the same as Anwar: they don't know about the economy, they only talk about doa (prayers)," the Malaysiakini news portal quoted Dr Chua as saying today, referring to Abdullah by his popular moniker.

"Under Najib, things are now completely different. Every day, the emphasis is on economic development and we believe this is the right track," he told the mainly Chinese audience at a luncheon in Jementah, Segamat this afternoon.

As such, he said the issue of who becomes prime minister was extremely crucial.

He also warned that if PAS had enough support to gain the prime ministership, the Genting casino would most likely be closed down, as would cinemas.

Dr Chua pointed to PAS's syura council's insistence on the hudud law, stating that this was very real as they were the highest authority in PAS.

"The syura council's power exceeds even that of their elected president, those that sit on it do not need to go through party elections.

"They say they are determined to create an Islamic state and implement hudud law, they will not back down because it is their religious obligation," the news portal quoted him as saying.

Dr Chua served as health minister in Abdullah's administration but quit in January 2008 over a sex scandal. He is not contesting the May 5 general election.

MCA has also "loaned" three federal seats to Umno in Election 2013, which is seen as the closest race to form a government in Malaysia's history.

BN is confident of regaining its customary two-thirds parliamentary majority that Abdullah had lost in the 2008 general elections but Anwar's PR are now targeting the ruling coalition's political fortress of Johor.

Some 13.3 million voters, including 5,200 abroad, are eligible to cast their ballots for 222 federal and 505 state seats in 12 states and three federal territories in this general election. Sarawak had its state elections in 2011.

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