

Too many cops for by-election, says DAP organiser
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BY Muzliza Mustafa

A DAP politician has said deploying 3,000 policemen for the Kuala Besut by-election is a waste of resources which could be better utilised fighting crime in the country.

DAP organising secretary Anthony Loke said that's 3,000 policemen to take care of about 17,000 voters.

"It works out to one policeman per six voters. It is not necessary. I wish they did something like this when they fight crime," said Loke.

He said the large contingent also means more money is being spent.

"Millions of ringgit for one by-election. Imagine if there is more than one by-election," said Loke, who is here to campaign for PAS candidate Azlan Yusof. Azlan is facing BN's Tengku Zaihan Che Ku Abdul Rahman at the polls on Wednesday.

Loke said while he does not deny the need to have additional personnel, this is overkill.

"It's enough with 200-300 policemen. The candidates are not violent people."

Loke was also critical of BN leaders' actions in Kuala Besut.

"If the leaders are here in their capacity of being leaders in Umno I have no objection but they are here as ministers and conducting lots of activities organised by their ministries. This is a clear abuse of power," he added.

The by-election is vital to Terengganu. If BN wins the status quo remains but if PAS wins it will lead to a hung Terengganu state assembly. - July 22, 2013.

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