

Don't play politics over MH370, says Gerakan

Free Malaysia Today

31 March 2014

Oleh Athi Shankar

GEORGE TOWN: Gerakan today urged Pakatan Rakyat leaders to put aside their political interests in commenting on the MH370 crisis.

The party's youth chief, Tan Keng Liang, said the opposition's right to criticise the Putrajaya administration did not extend to destroying the nation's international image.

"Some criticisms against the operations to search for MH370 were unfair and unjust," he said in a press statement.

"Gerakan Youth hopes that the opposition would set aside their political interests in relation to the MH370 tragedy.

"The critics should avoid condemning and tarnishing the country's good name."

He said he was concerned that the critics' comments were being heard and read by the families of MH370's passengers.

He pointed out that Malaysia was only one of 26 countries involved in the search and rescue operations.

In the same statement, Tan called on the Penang government to lay out a long term plan to increase the state's capacity to supply water to reduce the impact of prolonged droughts and increasing demand for water.

He said the DAP-dominated government had not implemented any long term water supply plan since Pakatan Rakyat won the 2008 election in the state.

Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng's administration must face the reality that state's population was bound to increase, he added.

He said the water conservation surcharges (WCS) introduced four years ago had failed to meet the objective of reducing water consumption.

Lim said yesterday that his administration would decide on the need for water rationing in light of a similar decision in Perak, which will affect Taiping, the country's wettest town. Taiping will face water rationing for two weeks beginning this Thursday.

The Penang executive council will discuss the issue at a meeting this Wednesday.

Lim expressed regret that water consumption in Penang had continued to rise despite the WCS and an educational campaign.

Lim, who chairs the Penang Water Supply Corporation, said water consumption in the state was now nearly 50% higher than the national average of 215 cubic litres per person per day.

Copyright © 2013 – Free Malaysia Today

Source: <http://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2014/03/31/dont-play-politics-over-mh370-says-gerakan/>