

BN 'suffering' in Parliament with no two-thirds majority, says deputy PM

Malaysian Insider

Dec 13, 2015

By Nabihah Hamid

Barisan Nasional (BN) has been "suffering" in the Dewan Rakyat because it lacked the two-thirds majority needed to amend the Federal Constitution to allow an increase in the number of constituencies, Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said today.

The deputy prime minister, speaking at the opening of BN component party myPPP's annual general assembly, said the party had to work hard to help BN regain a two-thirds majority in the coming general election.

"We are suffering in the Dewan Rakyat because we are unable to amend our constitution. We have only 222 parliamentary seats.

"The growth of the population has moved up 3%... but we could not move up. We could not increase the number of seats."

He promised a parliamentary seat to myPPP if BN regains a two-thirds victory in the 14th general election (GE14) which was due by 2018.

"Inshallah, after GE14, after we gain our victory (with) at least two-thirds majority, my promise to Tan Sri is, at least one seat, at least one parliamentary seat.

"But you have to prove it to me. You have to work hard. Don't forget we have to work smart, in order to be (successful) in our effort," Zahid said.

In jest, Zahid who is also Umno vice-president, added that myPPP should not try to curry favour with the BN leadership to get seats in the next general election.

"Don't try to lobby (Umno secretary-general) Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan (Tengku Mansor) too much.

"Don't try to lobby me too much either," Zahid added.

Umno is the lead party in the coalition and currently holds 88 seats in the Dewan Rakyat, the most among the BN parties. With 133 seats in total, it falls short of two-thirds in the house.

PPP or the People's Progressive Party in the 2013 general election contested one parliamentary and four state seats, but lost in each of them.

It had contested two parliamentary seats in the 12th general election in 2008 and also lost both.

Zahid today said he was still impressed with the party, which has since been rebranded to "myPPP", saying it continued to show a fighting spirit despite not winning in the general election.

He reminded the party as BN component member to give notice to the coalition early of the seats it intended to contest ahead of the next general election. – December 13, 2015.

Copyright © 2015 Edge Insider Sdn Bhd

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/bn-suffering-in-parliament-with-no-two-thirds-majority-says-deputy-pm>