

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**VOTERS PERCEPTION ON THE
PERFORMANCE OF SELANGOR STATE
GOVERNMENT UNDER PAKATAN RAKYAT
COALITION**

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AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

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ABSTRACT

In any country which claimed to be a democratic country will hold the idea that politicians are responsible for their decisions during the tenure of their services and it is considered as the foundations of democracy. Thus, when a government benefits from good policy performance or when a government suffers from poor policy performance, it will be judged by the voters. The key assumptions are that the government are given credit for the positive changes and be blamed for any negative or failures in their performance. Thus, after four years Pakatan Rakyat formed the government in Selangor, are Selangor voters generally satisfied with the performance under the new government? Does the policy conducted by the Selangor Pakatan Rakyat government really concerned with the welfare of the people and accurately reaching its target or objective? This is an important question because any political parties which have inclination to govern Selangor state government will depend on the voters' perception and satisfaction. Data were collected through questionnaires among registered voters which involved 560 respondents from 56 DUN in Selangor from 25th August 2012 until 30th September 2012. Based on the result from this study, majority of the voters are satisfied and have positive perception towards the current government performance. This research also found that the most influential factor for voters is economic performance. As for moderating effect, economic performance has a clear interaction with all ethnicity while other predictor such as local government matters to Indian only. From 5 hypotheses, all were accepted because each has a positive significant relationship. The findings concluded that voters in Selangor appear to be having a positive perception towards the current government but with the 13th Malaysian General Election is just around the corner, Selangor could be considered an open game for all political parties.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The State of Selangor Darul Ehsan is one of the 14 states in Malaysia. It is located in the central west coast of Peninsular Malaysia and is bordered by Perak Darul Ridzuan state in the north, Pahang Darul Makmur state in the east and Negeri Sembilan Darul Khusus state in the south (see page 109). The total size of Malaysia is 330,803 square kilometers with Selangor accommodating 8,153 square kilometers, ranking as the ninth biggest state in Malaysia followed by Negeri Sembilan (6,686 square kilometers), Melaka (1,658 square kilometers), Pulau Pinang (1,033 square kilometers), Perlis (795 square kilometers) and Kuala Lumpur (341 square kilometers). The state capital of Selangor is Shah Alam and the royal capital is Klang (Selangor State Government, 2011).

Malaysia practices constitutional monarchy and practices separation of powers where three different components were divided; Legislative, Judicial and Executive. The highest legislative bodies in this country is led by the Parliament, consist of members elected through general election. The Parliament consists of three main elements of Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong (The Ruler), the Senate (Dewan Negara) and House of Representatives (Dewan Rakyat) (Moten, 2008).

At the state level, legislatives functions were performed by State Legislative Assembly (DUN) (see page 110). This body is consists of two components, His Majesty the Sultan and the Board, who are members of the State Legislative Assembly. State Legislative Assembly enacting the law within its jurisdiction enshrined by the Federal Constitution (Moten, 2008).

Sultan is the head of the state, assisted by state executive council led by the Menteri Besar of Selangor. Meanwhile, the members of this council are appointed among the members of the State Legislative Assembly. The members were elected through general elections. Currently, there are 56 members in the Selangor State Legislative Assembly (Selangor State Government, 2011).