

Karpal to Nazri: I may be 3rd class but you've no class
Malaysiakini.com
Disember 17, 2010

Bukit Gelugor MP Karpal Singh said today Pakatan Rakyat will take Dewan Rakyat speaker Pandikar Amin Mulia to court over the suspension of four opposition MPs from Parliament.

Saying that the coalition will file its suit "as soon as possible", he also rubbished Minister in the Prime Minister's Department and de facto law minister Mohamed Nazri Abdul Aziz's remarks that decisions of the Dewan Rakyat cannot be challenged in court.

NONE "But in the case of (Puchong MP) Gobind Singh Deo, we took the speaker to court and we won," said Karpal (second from left in picture), referring to Gobind's six-month suspension without pay, where the court ruled that the withholding of an MP's salary was unconstitutional.

"The (Perak constitutional crisis) showed that even the state assembly proceedings can be questioned.

"This matter will go to court and we are serious about it," he said at a press conference called by Pakatan at the PKR headquarters in Petaling Jaya this morning.

Nazri had also called the opposition bench "stupid" and "crazy" with "cow dung in their heads" for threatening to sue Pandikar, and described Karpal as a "third-class lawyer".

To that, Karpal said: "Nazri can call me a third-class lawyer. I may be third-class but he has no class."

"Action against the speaker will be filed soon and I am surprised that Nazri said it cannot be challenged when there is already a precedence," he added as the Pakatan MPs present broke out in laughter.

Still no two-thirds majority for BN

However, Karpal agreed with Nazri on one point: that, despite the suspension, BN does not have a two-thirds majority that will enable it to amend the constitution as well as to pass a vote for a voter constituency delineation exercise.

NONE "According to the standing orders, having a two-thirds majority means two-thirds out of all the 222 MPs, and not those voting at the time.

"The number still doesn't change, unless they give their own interpretation of the standing orders," said Karpal.

The Dewan Rakyat yesterday had passed the motion to suspend opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim (PKR-Permatang Pauh) for six months over his statement linking Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's '1Malaysia' concept with the 'One Israel' policy designed by international public relations and consultancy firm Apco Worldwide.

Anwar, together with Karpal, Azmin Ali (PKR-Gombak) and R Sivarasa (PKR-Subang) were

suspended after a vote was called, without debate, for contempt for criticising the parliamentary disciplinary probe.

bersih ec constitutional putrajaya 181207 sivarasaSivarasa (right), who was also present at the press conference, said the suspension had damaged the integrity and dignity of the Parliament.

“In any parliament around the world, there is a factual understanding of what misleads the House. Misleading happens when an MP presents something knowing that it is false.

“It shows that our Parliament does not have freedom of speech. Parliamentarians cannot do their job. This shows that Parliament, as an institution, is under serious threat,” he added.

Copyright © 1999-2007 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd.

Source : <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/151060>