

**Gobala-PKR war of words rages on  
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The war of words between the Padang Serai MP from PKR, N Gobalakrishnan, and the party leadership rages on, with the former casting doubts over the legitimacy of the recent appointments in the party.

Honing in on newly-minted vice-president N Surendran - a relative political novice - Gobalakrishnan (right) had questioned his credentials, insisting that he is not even a party member.

"It makes me wonder how Surendran was appointed when he was not even a member of the party. I question his integrity when he speaks about the PKR election," said Gobalakrishnan (more popularly known as Gobala).

The former MIC Youth leader also alleged that Surendran - a human rights lawyer - did not vote during the recently-concluded party elections.

"His name doesn't appear in the voters' list of the Lembah Pantai cabang where he claims to be a member or any other cabang in the country.

"Can he show proof of where he voted or at least produce three witnesses who have seen him voting or attend the divisional annual general meeting? Then again, I know that there are means to slot his name or any name in the voters list if (PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim) wishes to do so," he said snidely in a statement this morning.

Trouble started between Gobalakrishnan and the party when he had openly supported former PKR leader Zaid Ibrahim in alleging that the party elections had been riddled with malpractices and fraud.

However, it intensified after the announcement of the new party appointments which saw the Indian quota for vice-presidency going to Surendran (left), who until now had never held any party position.

Gobalakrishnan had then took to Twitter, hurling vitriol at the party leaders, namely Anwar and deputy president Azmin Ali, claiming that they do not care about the welfare of the Indian community.

**'But I am not ranting'**

Claiming that his tweets were not "rants", Gobalakrishnan insisted that his statements were also "not vague, baseless or unproductive".

"I do not have any personal agenda or gain in all that I do. I always strive for justice for all especially the downtrodden Indian community. This has been my struggle since I started my political career in MIC about 23 years ago," he said.

He had also challenged the party to address several Indian issues including reopening the Hindu Sivan Temple in Bukit Gasing as well as the poor estate workers in the Coalfields

estates.

Claiming that Anwar had shut down construction of the temple within just 100 days of Pakatan Rakyat helming the Selangor state government, Gobalakrishnan said that it was due to the "dragon fencing".

"This problem existed during the BN rule in Selangor but they did not go to the extreme of closing the temple! Being a successful human rights lawyer, I challenge Mr Surendran to assist to open the temple to the devotees for the New Year," he said.

It was previously reported back in 2009 in The Sun that a stop-work order was issued on the temple in 2007 because of safety concerns on the landslope development. Only an area of 1,400 sq m was approved for the temple but the final plans showed it occupying 5,400 sq m.

Gobalakrishnan had also claimed that the Coalfields estate workers are being evicted from their quarters without compensation.

"The above are only a very few of the many problems faced by the Indian community in the country which Anwar is not bothered to assist. He doesn't care about the Indian community," he said.

"If any disciplinary action should be taken, it should be against Anwar first for closing the Bukit Gasing Sivan temple and (Selangor exco member) Xavier Jayakumar for using gangsterism during the recent PKR elections," he said.

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