

Nik Aziz mum on meeting with Agong, Najib
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PAS spiritual leader Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat's highly-anticipated 'explanation' of his recent meeting with premier Najib Abdul Razak in the presence of the Agong, has ended up a dud.

Contrary to assurances that an explanation was forthcoming for the secret meeting last month with top PAS and federal government leaders, Nik Aziz would not reveal what had transpired at the Istana Terengganu in Kuala Lumpur on Dec 25 last year.

In a statement today, he only said that former premier Abdullah Ahmad Badawi had conveyed the Agong's invitation to Nik Aziz and "several other leaders, including (PAS president) Abdul Hadi Awang" for the meeting.

"On the basis of respect for and to answer Tuanku's summons, I attended the function. (But) it (would be) highly unethical and ill-mannered to relate what transpired (at the) audience," he said.

He told all parties to stop speculating or making any statements that are inaccurate, so that "the dignity and good name of the royal palace" would be preserved.

At a press conference in Kota Bharu today, Nik Aziz also urged the public not drag the palace into politics or otherwise speculate on the dinner meeting.

Abdul Hadi and PAS secretary-general Mustapha Ali were present, according to PAS organ Harakah.

Abdul Hadi said the issue of a 'unity government' between PAS and Umno had not arisen during the meeting.

"The function was with the Yang DiPertuan Agong. How could we have spoken with the prime minister?" he asked.

Nik Aziz reportedly met with Najib and deputy premier Muhyiddin Yassin that day, fuelling rumours of a resurrection of the PAS-Umno unity government talks.

Siasah editor Mohd Sayuti Omar wrote in his blog on Dec 26 last year about an "important meeting" between top Malays leaders in order to bring forth a solution to the "fragmented Malay politics".

"The meeting happened not on the initiative of a non-political entity and not a NGO either. It is believed that consensus was reached at the (meeting of) two hours and thirteen minutes," he wrote.

However, Kelantan PAS elections director Abdul Fatah Haron rebutted this on his Facebook page.

"Look at the slander-monger who is trying to drag Nik Aziz (into this), as if he supports the 'unity government'," he wrote.

Abdul Fatah urged PAS members to look for the real brokers of the new 'unity government' or the same people who brokered the idea last time.

"These people are dangerous to the unity of our party. I have been exposing their dirty deeds (and) have been attacked, (and) the brokers are still unpunished because some leaders are playing safe," he added.

Nik Aziz, when asked about the meeting yesterday, had told reporters: "Of course there are certain things that we talked about, one cannot meet with the PM just for small talk."

He refused to comment on whether the meeting had touched on the sensitive subject of the Malay royalty.

Nik Aziz tricked?

One blogger is of the opinion that Nik Azzi was tricked into attending the meeting and that he was ambushed by Najib and Muhyiddin when answering the Agong's summons.

"Is it true that when Nik Aziz arrived at the palace ...the Umno's president and his deputy were already there?" asked PAS-linked prominent blogger Abu Bakar Rashid, popularly known as Penarik Beca, in a posting on Dec 29 last year.

He launched a tirade against Umno's moves to force PAS into supporting 'unity' and the 'interest' of the Malays.

Abu Bakar went as far as to accuse certain high ranking leaders in PAS as being responsible for 'setting up' Nik Aziz for the meeting.

"If it is true that there are PAS leaders who want to flirt with Umno and want to become its servants, why don't they just go themselves instead of dragging other people with them?"

"Is it because these people are of no value, like a one-sen coin, so much so that even Umno does not want them?"