

Sultan: My statements were manipulated
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Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah today lambasted unnamed individuals for allegedly manipulating his statements on the appointment of Mohd Khusrin Munawi as the new state secretary.

"I am bewildered and regret that there are some irresponsible groups who manipulated my statements, causing confusion among the people.

"I do not want to see the appointment of the state secretary to be politicised and sensationalised to the extent that it will cause confusion.

"Do not politicise every issue because it will bring difficulties, burden the people and hamper the development of the state," said the sultan in a speech after Khusrin's swearing-in ceremony at the palace in Shah Alam today.

The sultan said he had told the state cabinet on Dec 5, 2010, that he was above politics and did not support any political party.

He said he had always exchanged views with Menteri Besar Khalid Ibrahim on the running of the state and offered his advice.

Message aimed at Khalid?

The Khalid administration has repeatedly said that it rejects Khusrin's appointment on grounds that he was a federal government agent sent to disrupt the state administration.

Although the sultan did not mention names, it is likely that the message was aimed at Khalid.

Khalid was granted an audience with the sultan on Monday.

Following the meeting, Khalid told reporters that the sultan had conceded that he had no authority to accept or reject the federal Public Service Commission's appointment of the state secretary.

As such, Khalid said, the state government would convene a state legislative assembly sitting soon with the intention of amending the Selangor constitution to grant the state government and the sultan the power to decide on the position.

Meanwhile, the sultan said the appointment of the state secretary was done in accordance with the Constitution of Selangor 1959 and the Federal Constitution.

'Cooperate with Khusrin'

Thus, he called on all quarters to cooperate with Khusrin in the running of the state.

"I want all officers in the Selangor government to give their full cooperation to Khusrin so all

state administration and affairs will proceed smoothly and properly," he said.

He also ordered Khusrin to implement policies of the government of the day, in accordance with current rules and regulations.

Other than Khusrin, two others who took their oaths of office were his predecessor Ramli Mahmud, who was appointed to the Royal Council, and Marzuki Hussin, who is the new Selangor Islamic Religious Department (Jais) director.

According to palace officials, it is rare for the sultan to deliver a speech on such occasions.

In concluding his speech, the sultan said he wanted to see Selangor becoming the most developed state in Malaysia and set an example for others in terms of administration and operations.

"I hope it will be a benchmark for other developing states in this region. Let us unify in realising my hopes and aspirations," he added.

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