

'S'gor govt not intending to restore sultan's powers'
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The Selangor government is amending the state constitution not with the intention of restoring power to the sultan but to benefit the menteri besar, Selangor Umno liaison committee deputy chairperson Noh Omar said.

He said this was reflected in the move by the PKR-DAP-PAS government to issue the notice of the special sitting of the Selangor state legislative assembly scheduled for tomorrow even before getting the consent of the sultan.

This action of the state government was uncivilised and ignored the sultan, he told reporters after a ministry's programme with the people at the Tenang Felda scheme in Labis last night.

Noh said Selangor state assembly speaker Teng Chang Khim had issued the notice on Jan 10, four days prior to the consent given by Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah for the special sitting of the assembly.

This clearly showed that the state government's purported move to restore to the sultan the power of appointing the state's top three civil servants - the state secretary, state legal advisor and state financial officer - was merely a political gimmick, he said.

Noh said BN assemblymen would attend the special sitting tomorrow but would reject any attempt to amend the state constitution to restore authority to the state in the appointment of the three civil servants.

The state government proposed the amendment following the appointment of Mohamed Khusrin Munawi (right) as the state secretary effective Jan 1 by the Public Service Commission (PSC) without allegedly consulting Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim.

On the position of assemblyman Badrul Hisham Abdullah whose Port Klang seat has been declared vacant by Speaker Teng because he had allegedly been absent from state assembly sittings for six months up to Jan 16, Noh said Badrul Hisham was entitled to defend himself should the matter be brought to court.

Badrul Hisham won the seat on a PKR ticket in the general election in 2008. He quit PKR on 29 Oct 2009.

- Bernama