

BN fears amendments will empower MB
Malaysiakini.com
January 23, 2011

Selangor opposition leader Mohamad Satim Diman said today the Barisan Nasional (BN) would oppose the proposed amendment to the Selangor constitution claiming it did not want the state's top civil servants to be mere "yes" men.

The special sitting of the Selangor Legislative Assembly tomorrow is to debate an amendment to the state constitution purportedly to restore the powers of the sultan and the state in the appointment of the top three civil servants, namely the state secretary, the state legal advisor and the state financial officer.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting of the BN assemblymen in Shah Alam, Mohamad Satim said every good government had good policies and these policies should be implemented by the civil servants, but why does Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim doubt his own powers to want to amend the state constitution.

He said he feared that if the amendment were approved, there would be no final decision on the appointment of the three top civil servants because the candidate proposed by the Public Service Commission could be disputed by the menteri besar who might have another candidate.

"We will attend the special sitting and question why the matter has been turned into a big issue, as though to restore the powers of the sultan but when it is actually about the menteri besar advising the sultan, meaning he is more powerful than the sultan," he said.

Mohamad Satim said the meeting of the BN assemblymen was held today because many of them had received a copy of the draft amendment only on Friday.

He also said that five BN assemblymen would speak during the debate on the amendment, they being himself, Deputy Opposition Leader and Kuala Kubu Baru Assemblyman Wong Koon Mun, Sungai Burong Assemblyman Mohd Shamsudin Lias, Permatang Assemblyman Sulaiman Razak and State Umno Information Chief and Kuang Assemblyman Abdul Shukur Idros.

- Bernama