

Najib accused of endorsing political blackmail
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A Kedah PKR strongman has expressed shock that Prime Minister Najib Razak appears to have endorsed the campaign to politically blackmail his opponent.

The party's state committee member said that Najib, as PM, should stay far and above gutter politics when a sex video allegedly linked to an opposition leader become public knowledge on Monday.

Or else, Najib, who is also BN and Umno chief, was not fit to helm the country, added PKR's state committee member Gooi Hsiao Leung (seated at centre in photo).

"Instead, it is shocking that he is calling for a thorough police investigation, with the help of experts in the field of video editing to determine the authenticity of the sex video," he said.

"Najib has failed in his responsibility as PM of the country to outrightly condemn the actions of the Datuk T trio," added Gooi, a lawyer by profession.

"He should demand that the police take immediate action against the criminal acts of the trio for screening pornographic video to the media and having committed political blackmail," he added.

Umno on character assassination binge

Gooi, who stood as a candidate for the Alor Setar parliamentary seat in the last general election, was responding to Najib's statement last night that the main issue was whether the video was genuine or not. The police should be allowed to do a rapid and professional job to verify whether the video was doctored or not, he was reported as saying.

Najib with his facebook gathering in Kuching, showing finger Najib had also attempted to distance Umno from the video depicting Opposition Leader and PKR supremo Anwar Ibrahim allegedly having sex with a prostitute.

However, Gooi said by endorsing dirty politics, Najib (right) shows that Umno is desperate to character assassinate Anwar, who is Permatang Pauh MP, in whatever way they can.

This clearly shows that Umno has no confidence in facing Anwar's challenge for Putrajaya, he added.

"Umno is wallowing in a campaign to destroy Anwar's reputation, even though no crime has been alleged to have been committed by Anwar," he said.

"Umno behaves as though they are already going to lose the next general election," he added.

Gerakan joins in by launching broadside

Meanwhile, a Penang Gerakan leader has taken de facto law minister Nazri Abdul Aziz to task for implying that the trio who exposed the video needed to be protected.

The party's human rights bureau chief Baljit Singh was upset that Nazri had urged the public "not to kill the messenger".

By saying so, Nazri appears to be a "defective", not de facto, law minister, charged Baljit. "The video should have been taken to the police and not shown to the media.

"When they show it like this, it seems as if it is 'directly or indirectly' aligned to a political party," said the lawyer.

He was responding to Nazri, who recently defended the trio by urging the public not to raise issues that are not central to the one at hand.

Law suffering from myopic vision

However, two of the trio - honorary consul general of Thailand in Malaysia Shazryl Eskay Abdullah and former Malacca chief minister Rahim Thamby Chik - are highly controversial individuals linked to Umno.

Baljit expressed sadness that the country has gone down to gutter politics where the police appear to be practising double standards in their handling of the recent case.

He questioned if the trio had obtained police permit to screen the video and if police had acted on the former if they had failed to do so.

"Others need to apply for police permits for such things, for example, even to organise a forum on the Interlok issue, Hindraf was told to get permits. When they did not, they were arrested," he added.

He also criticised those who called for a royal commission of inquiry (RCI) to determine the authenticity of the video.

He said the government did not find it necessary to call a RCI when a Malaysian citizen and DAP political aide - Teoh Beng Hock - died while in the custody of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission.

"And now they want a RCI to investigate two adults having sex?" he asked.