

I will meet PSC as Bersih chairperson, says Ambiga

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By Nigel Aw

Bersih 2.0 chief Ambiga Sreenevasan today insisted that she will meet the parliamentary select committee (PSC) on electoral reforms in her capacity as the movement's chairperson despite its illegal status.

"If I meet the PSC, to my own mind, I will be meeting them as the chairperson of Bersih 2.0 and I will be representing the views of Bersih 2.0," she said after attending the 'Green Solidarity 109' luncheon in Kuantan this afternoon.

The comments come after the PSC chair Maximus Johnity Ongkili unilaterally declared that Bersih 2.0 was not welcomed to meet with the panel as it was an illegal organisation but its leaders could do so in their personal capacity.

dap abolish isa forum 230908 ambiga sreenevasan "What they want to accord to me is fine. I'm not going to get caught up with that, if they want see me in my personal capacity.

"But as far as I am concerned, I'm representing Bersih," said Ambiga (left).

However she added that both parties should not be caught up in "semantics" as ultimately the purpose is to achieve genuine electoral reforms.

"They serve the rakyat, we also want to serve the rakyat, we should get on with the job."

Bersih 2.0 was declared illegal by the Home Ministry on July 1 in an attempt to thwart the landmark July 9 rally which saw tens of thousands of protesters taking to the streets to demand for free and fair elections.

In a written reply to Parliament on Tuesday, Home Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said that Bersih 2.0 remains an illegal organisation as it had "actively moved to create public unrest".

This was despite Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak boast to make Malaysia the "world's best democracy" following his Malaysia Day eve promise for civil liberties reforms.

Bersih has since taken the ban to court and was granted leave to challenge its illegal status by the Home Ministry.

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