

BN meeting: Snap polls or cabinet reshuffle?

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by Susan Loone

Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng has speculated that a cabinet reshuffle could be in the offing, given that premier Najib Abdul Razak is to meet all BN heads tonight.

Lim, also the DAP secretary-general, described the scheduled meeting as "interesting" and predicted one of two outcomes.

"It could be a meeting on snap polls, which is unlikely. But there could be another reason which people have not thought of - a cabinet reshuffle," he told reporters in Penang today.

Should it lead to a cabinet reshuffle, he posed the question as to whether Women, Family and Community Development Minister Shahrizat Abdul Jalil will keep her post in light of controversy over the National Feedlot Corporation project.

"Will she be dropped? Instead of rearing cows in the fields, she wants to rear cows in a condominium," joked Lim.

BN leaders have called for Shahrizat's (right) resignation, while BN Backbenchers Club deputy chief Bung Moktar Radin had told the Dewan Rakyat yesterday that the minister involved in the fiasco should resign.

However, deputy premier Muhyiddin Yassin has reportedly said that Shahrizat need not step down.

The purpose of the meeting at the premier's official residence in Putrajaya is not known, but Sin Chew Daily said it is believed to be related to preparations for the 13th general election.

Many expect polls to be called as early as next year, although this is not due until 2013.

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