

Investigate AG's role in ex-top cop's case, says MP

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Hafiz Yatim

PAS wants institutions appointed by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, including the Attorney-General's Chambers, to be restored to their original status, together with an independent investigation into Abdul Gani Patail's alleged misconduct.

The call was sparked by the revelations reported by Malaysiakini yesterday on former Commercial Crimes Investigation Department director Ramli Yusuff's allegations that Gani and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission "fixed" him and his men in 2007.

In making the call, PAS vice-president Mahfuz Omar (right) said there have been numerous allegations against Gani, such as "selective prosecution" and questions pertaining to his haj trip.

"I think it is time for the government to call an in-depth, independent inquiry into Gani's conduct following yesterday's revelations.

Ramli had claimed that Gani, along with former inspector-general of police Musa Hassan, had used the MACC to fix him and those working with him when he took action on a syndicate member who was placed under restricted residence in Jeli, Kelantan.

"The probe should not be conducted by the police or the MACC as they are answerable to the attorney-general.

"It must be independent and thorough as Gani has previously been alleged to have fabricated evidence in the Anwar Ibrahim black eye incident," Mahfuz said.

Ex-lord president's case cited

He said if there was a provision for the setting up of a tribunal, as was done in 1988 against the then lord president of the Supreme Court Salleh Abas, then this should be initiated against Gani as well.

"Truly, we have to restore the integrity of the attorney-general and the Attorney-General's Chambers, since they should be truly independent.

"However, the position and office have been used by 'the powers that be', including Umno politicians.

"Look at the National Feedlot Corporation scandal. The current CCID chief (Syed Ismail Syed Azizan) had recommended that NFC chairperson Mohamed Salleh Ismail, who is Shahrizat Abdul Jalil's husband, be charged with criminal breach of trust.

"But now, the AG's office is being used to delay and possibly cause the case to be swept under the carpet," Mahfuz said.

The PAS vice-president added that former chief justice Mohamad Dzaiddin Abdullah revealed recently that the courts were subservient to the government under an amendment made by former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad's administration, and it only showed there is no independence in the judiciary.

"Let me tell the judiciary that if it is not brave enough to deliver judgments against the government, it is better for the judges to resign. Why not judge song-bird competitions only?" he joked.

Judges, Mahfuz said, should dispense justice without fear or favour, even if decisions were against the government.

"Their job is to deliver justice," he added.

Dzaiddin was reported to have said last month that Parliament passing of the amendment to Article 121 of the Federal Constitution effectively removed judicial power from the courts and made the judiciary subservient to Parliament.

When the former chief justice brought the matter up to the PM's Department, the de facto law minister, Mohd Nazri Abdul Aziz, had agreed with the notion.

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