

Najib 'threatened' by LRT scandal, says Rafizi
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PKR's strategy director Rafizi Ramli sees the investigation against him for exposing Finance Ministry documents on the Ampang LRT line extension project as an indication of Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak feeling the heat over the emerging RM1 billion scandal.

Federal Criminal Investigation Department director Bakri Zinin's announcement of a special task force to investigate the leaked documents, Rafizi said, has verified the authenticity of his expose.

"Bakri's statement has proven two things: that the Finance Ministry documents, including its minutes signed by Najib, and the other documents related to the tender are true and authentic.

"It also proves that Najib is worried that this scandal will threaten his position when this information is disseminated widely to the public," Rafizi added in a statement issued today.

Rafizi on June 27 announced that Najib had interfered in the open tender process for the more than RM1 billion Ampang Line LRT extension project in favour of George Kent consortium, which has no prior experience in rail projects and was poorly rated by consultants.

Najib has insisted that the tender process was done "properly".

Rafizi said he acknowledged the risks and responsibilities that he and PKR had to bear by exposing this scandal, but they would remain unflinching in their revelations, which would continue next week.

"The lives of millions of Malaysians using the Ampang LRT line system are too valuable and must be defended until a qualified and skilled contractor is appointed for the project.

"Any attempt to intimidate me or my (party) colleagues from continuing this expose will be in vain," he said.

He added that beginning next week, PKR would start be distributing brochures at LRT stations along the Ampang line to create greater awareness on the matter.

'Political masters over millions of lives'

Blasting the police for defending their political masters, Rafizi said the police were more concerned about investigating the leak of the documents, which Bakri said described as a national security issue instead of considering the scandal itself, which involves public safety.

"Does Bakri not understand the danger to millions of people who will be using the Ampang LRT line if a company without any experience in LRT systems is awarded the contract?

"Would he dare to take the LRT through Ampang to work in future if he knew that the construction was done by a company with a prior experience of only producing water metres?"

Drawing a contrast, Rafizi pointed out that police still refused to investigate allegations that Malaysian state secrets were sold in the Scorpene submarine scandal, despite this being revealed in an inquiry by the courts in France.

"Clearly, the leadership of the police have a different opinion from the Malaysian people on the meaning of 'public interest'," he added.

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