

PAS: Muhyiddin just can't wait to be PM

MalaysiaKini.com

July 16, 2012

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Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin must be anxious to become the next prime minister judging from his comment on the election timing, said PAS.

Party vice president Mahfuz Omar said the DPM's statement yesterday that the next general election would be held this year rather than next contradicted Prime Minister Najib Razak's own assertion that the latter would serve a full term.

"It seems Muhyiddin is repeating what happened in the time of Pak Lah (former PM Abdullah Ahmad Badawi) when the supreme council and cabinet agreed that the latter should step down on a particular date and month in 2009," he said.

Mahfuz said Muhyiddin had gone to Singapore and from there had urged Pak Lah to step down, "to the point Pak Lah had to issued a statement that a cabinet member was trying to stab his back".

He suggested that the DPM was using the same method now that he used to pressure Abdullah to step down at the time.

"Maybe the DPM figures, if BN doesn't win two-thirds majority (in the coming GE), Najib would have to step down just as Pak Lah had done," he mused.

Mahfuz was speaking at a press conference at Parliament today.

He was responding to Muhyiddin's comment reported on Bernama, where the latter commented on the next general election saying, "I don't think the wait will go into next year. However, it depends on the prime minister, but I've told him that this year is the best time."

Last month Najib made a surprise statement after chairing the BN supreme council meeting that he would wait for the full five-year term - that expires next year - before calling for the 13th general election.

The PM had fuelled endless speculations on the GE date since late last year.

Mahfuz meanwhile further suggested that Muhyiddin did not want BN to win big at the next polls, because that would finish off his hopes of taking over the reins of PM.

"So he hopes BN wouldn't get two-thirds majority, and he will topple Najib, just as how he toppled Pak Lah before," he said.

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