

S'gor MB: Noh's call to quit shows his ignorance

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Selangor BN deputy liaison chief Noh Omar's challenge for Selangor Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim to quit if he cannot complete the water restructuring exercise by September shows his poor knowledge on the issue.

Saying this at a press conference, Abdul Khalid said that the most important thing in the exercise is to ensure the most bang for the buck, and not to chase deadlines.

"It is not about time but price and value. What Noh said shows that he does not understand corporate takeovers.

"I will not sacrifice the people of Selangor by buying the concessionaire at a price which cannot ensure a reasonable water tariff," he said.

He added that Noh is "just an ordinary person" whose statements on the matter have no impact.

"The previous BN government failed to restructure the water industry. Noh couldn't do it, neither could the former MB (Mohd Khir Toyo)," he said.

In a tit-for-tat, he said that it would be better for Noh and Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin to focus on solving the National Feedlot Centre issue by September instead.

"If Noh can do this, then he will be looked at highly by the people of Selangor.

"We don't have to go so low to the level of street fighting," he said.

Langat 2 not urgent

Abdul Khalid also said the federal government can go ahead and open the tender the Langat 2 water treatment plant project, although this is not the priority as far as Selangor is concerned.

"Our focus is on the restructuring exercise. Langat 2 is not yet considered a central issue in water operations in Selangor," he said.

On a separate matter, he said the state has in the past three years given numerous alternatives to Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) so as to not affect the Kampung Sungai Terentang, Rawang, residents.

He was referring to the 275KV high tension transmission towers that TNB wishes to build through Kampung Sungai Terentang, and which PKR says is delaying the Central Reinforcement Area project.

“But so far TNB's response has not been in line with the residents' interests,” Khalid said.

Among the alternatives suggested after consultation with “international consultants” was to transmit electricity underground.

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