

Mahfuz to meet Deepak in a week's time
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By Stuart Grudgings, Reuters

PAS vice president Mahfuz Omar has confirmed he will meet with businessman Deepak Jaikishan roughly a week from now to mediate the latter's quest for immunity from Pakatan Rakyat.

"I thank Deepak Jaikishan for his willingness to meet with me.

"However I am presently too busy with the Kedah sultan's birthday, after that I will be occupied with the Prophet Muhammad's Birthday celebrations.

"Therefore I expect I will be able to meet with him at the soonest a week from now," said Mahfuz in an email to the media.

Yesterday the PAS veep offered himself as a mediator at the businessman's request and await Deepak's response.

"He has asked for immunity in the event that Pakatan Rakyat forms government (after the next general election).

"I am prepared to act as mediator and will convey his intentions to the Pakatan leadership," Mahfuz told Malaysiakini yesterday.

He added that the businessman should not worry as there are provisions to offer protection to witnesses who assist in criminal cases.

Deepak accepts meeting

Deepak, in an email response yesterday, said he accepted Mahfuz' offer.

"I welcome the invitation by Mahfuz to meet him regarding my immunity request to Pakatan and hope to meet him by tomorrow at PAS' HQ, according to him.

"And as confirmed by my solicitors I will be eligible for immunity as enshrined in our Malaysian constitution ... I seek all Malaysians blessings and prayers as I take the next steps in my crusade for justice and peace for Altantuya (Shaariibuu)'s soul," he said.

In his email the carpet trader also added that the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission (MACC) had requested him to meet them at their Putrajaya office at 4pm yesterday.

The businessman (above, in dark green), who was a close associate of Prime Minister Najib Razak, has made a number of allegations, in particular regarding the statutory declarations

of private investigator P Balasubramaniam related to the murder of Mongolian interpreter Altantuya Shaariibuu.

Last week, PKR strategy director Rafizi Ramli was reported as saying that opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim had indicated that Deepak may not be guaranteed immunity, nor full protection under the Whistleblowers Act.

He was responding to Deepak's plan to address the crowd during the historic People's Uprising Rally at Stadium Merdeka last Saturday.

Meanwhile, Najib finally broke his two-month silence on Deepak's exposes on Thursday denying the allegations, while the PM's wife Rosmah Mansor yesterday refused to comment.

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