

## **Exco list held-up to accommodate S'gor sultan**

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The delay in finalising the Selangor state executive council list is to comply with the Selangor Sultan's request to change the racial composition of the line-up, says Selangor PAS deputy commissioner Khalid Samad.

"We understand that his royal highness wants to see an exco made up of six Malays and four non-Malays.

NONE" This is different from the exco in 2008, which was made up of five Malays and five non-Malays," Khalid, the MP for Shah Alam, said in a blog posting yesterday.

He explained that this was to match the increase in Malay majority seats won by Pakatan Rakyat in the 13th general election.

In 2008, PAS won eight seats, DAP 13 and PKR 15 but in the May 5 general election, PAS almost doubled its seats to 15 while DAP also won 15 and PKR, 14.

Khalid said the new 6:4 arrangement requested by the sultan meant DAP could not be allocated four exco positions as previously agreed, as all its appointments would be non-Malays and therefore leave no room for non-Malay appointments from PKR.

"(If DAP takes all the non-Malay slots), PKR will be forced to appoint only Malay exco members and this will pose a problem as PKR also has many non-Malay supporters," he said.

MB will try to convince sultan

However, Khalid explained that it has been agreed that Selangor Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim will try to convince the Selangor sultan to maintain the existing composition of 5:5 for Malays and non-Malays.

"However, if his royal highness remains firm with his stance, then the menteri besar must obey the sultan," he said.

Pakatan Rakyat had initially agreed that DAP will receive four exco positions while PKR will take three, plus the menteri besar's post, and PAS will take three and the speaker's position as well.

NONEHowever, Selangor DAP deputy chief Tony Pua expressed surprise last Sunday when the line-up was changed and DAP was only allocated three exco positions.

Abdul Khalid (right) later explained that DAP will also get the speaker's position and a senatorship.

PAS' Khalid explained that the positions of speaker and menteri besar had to be taken into the equation in the exco allocation this time as all three Pakatan parties won almost equal numbers of seats and it was impossible to equally divide the limited exco positions of 10.

Spirit of camaraderie lauded

Khalid also praised Selangor PAS commissioner Dr Abdul Rani Othman for upholding the spirit of camaraderie by not pursuing the position of menteri besar from PKR despite the party winning more seats.

"This is in contrast with the old state commissioner (Hasan Ali). If it were him, there would have been a war.

"Even when PAS had eight state seats he wanted to be menteri besar. What more with 15 seats now?" Khalid said.

Hasan had engaged with Umno for a possible joint-government in Selangor after the 2008 general election but it did not materialise. He was later sacked for his tirades against the Islamic party.

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