

Show proof members want new party, DAP tells ROS

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The DAP wants the Registrar of Societies (ROS) to show proof that its members are harbouring hopes of forming a new party, as it is reported saying by the MCA-owned English language daily The Star yesterday.

dap special meeting 110313 lim guan engDAP has instructed its lawyers to look into this "latest lie" by ROS director Abdul Rahman Othman, its secretary-general Lim Guan Eng said in a statement today.

The lawyers have also been instructed to look into the possibility of filing for defamation against Abdul Rahman and The Star for lying about the DAP harbouring hopes of setting up a new party.

Lim wants Abdul Rahman to back his claims or be exposed in court as behaving "maliciously and prejudged to de-register DAP by hook or by crook with false fabrications and made-up lies".

He added: "This is outrageous as DAP leaders have neither considered nor raised the suggestion of forming a new party in or outside our regular central executive committee(CEC) meetings.

"DAP regrets that Abdul Rahman is knowingly making such a bare-faced lie during the holy month of Ramadan."

'ROS won't entertain requests for new party'

Lim, who is also Penang chief minister, was responding to yesterday's report in The Star, quoting Abdul Rahman as saying ROS would not likely entertain requests by DAP members to set up a new party.

ROS is currently probing claims of electoral fraud in the party's CEC elections, which the DAP has explained as a technical glitch that occurred while computing the results in December last year.

DAP then announced the new result, which saw Lim's political secretary and now Bukit Bendera MP Zairil Khir Johari elected to the CEC after having failed to make it in earlier.

This led to several disgruntled members lodging reports with the ROS and urging the party to seek a new mandate.

Lim also said the ROS has willingly allowed itself to be used as a political tool by Umno to defeat the DAP - which Umno could not do in the last general election - by moving to illegally de-register the DAP.

He said it was clear that Abdul Rahman had pre-judged the issue even before completing investigations and that he was on a determined course to de-register the DAP.

"DAP will fight this latest attempt by BN to destroy our party, in and outside the courtroom," Lim said.

"DAP will resist such unscrupulous attempts to pervert and sabotage the popular mandate of the rakyat through the 13th general election that gave DAP 38 parliamentary and 107 state seats to be the second largest political party in Malaysia."

Lim said DAP has always cooperated fully with the ROS and given any information required as the party had nothing to hide.

Lim said he met Abdul Rahman, upon his request, at his his office in Penang, together with the DAP national organising secretary before the general election.

"At no time, did Abdul Rahman talk about calling for fresh CEC elections," he said. "Instead Abdul Rahman assured us that he would not make any decision until investigations are completed."

However, Lim added, by prejudging this issue, Abdul Rahman was clearly breaking his own promise.

He added that DAP had truthfully admitted its mistake on its own volition, without any pressure from outside parties.

"Clearly, ROS is determined to punish DAP for being honest."

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