

Karpal: Sacked means sacked despite fresh polls

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By Susan Loone

DAP national chairperson Karpal Singh said the sacking of former members remains valid although the party has been forced to hold re-election of its central executive committee (CEC).

He said although the affected members are allowed to vote as delegates, their situation remains unchanged.

"They can always challenge their suspension," said Karpal (below), at a press conference held in Air Itam as part of his constituency visit.

NONE" They could take the matter up at the court but the 1966 Societies Act (1989 amendment) states that disputes among members must be resolved internally," he added.

After the general elections, the party had sacked those who contested as candidates in three or multiple-cornered fights, while some faced the same fate for bringing ill-repute to DAP over the CEC elections.

Karpal reiterated that delegates in the old list, who voted in the last polls on December 15, would be voting for the same candidates.

Inquest on police shooting

He added that the party will not go through the process of nominations again and would just proceed with the polls at a special congress on Nov 10 to settle this matter alone.

On why the hurry to hold the re-election, Karpal, adding, "It's best to get it over soon and we do not want to be distracted by it."

Meanwhile, he urged the police to hold an inquest into the death of the five men gunned down by police in a pre-dawn shootout in Penang on Monday.

"It cannot be denied that police must take stern action to stamp out rising crime, especially in Penang," he said.

"On the other hand, we cannot allow lawlessness, trigger-happy and overzealous

policemen to take such actions," he added.

Karpal said the families of the five, believed to be linked to the spate of shootings in Penang, Kedah and Negeri Sembilan, have the right to know what happened to them.

"They should not be denied the right. If the police think they did right they should not fear to come to court to defend their position," he said.

"The police must realise if they continue to act in the manner they did, there could be reprisals and negative repercussions to other police officers that should be avoided," he added.

"There could be revenge and this can endanger the lives of others who are innocent. This matter must be considered seriously, do not view it in isolation," he added.

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