

## **Legality of new Kedah DAP panel still challenged**

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**By Susan Loone**

The storm in the Kedah DAP is not over yet although the party has vindicated itself by re-electing the 20 former central executive committee (CEC) members at a special congress yesterday.

kedah defection ceramah 220510 dap adun lee guan aikFormer Kedah DAP chairperson Lee Guan Aik said a report has been lodged with the Registrar of Societies (ROS) to decide which state committee is legal, since a new one had been formed after the May 5 general election.

Lee (right) said the letter issued to Kedah DAP to drop from him from his post after the general election was only copied to secretary-general Lim Guan Eng but not to all CEC members.

This letter was allegedly sent by organising secretary Anthony Loke.

Lee said the central leadership decided to take over Kedah DAP on May 10, five days after the general election.

"But I only received the letter sent out by them (dated May 23 ) through email on May 27, which is quite late," he told Malaysiakini.

'Never issued a show-cause letter'

Lee was responding to Zairil's statement in a Malaysiakini report last week that the CEC had followed procedures according to the party constitution to "shake-up" Kedah DAP by changing its leadership to strengthen the party.

Zairil Khir Johari (3)Zairil (left) had said that the decision was not based on any hidden agenda but was meant to bring in new blood after Pakatan Rakyat lost Kedah in the 13th general election.

However, Lee said he was never issued any show-cause letter or asked for an explanation before the decision was made to drop him as Kedah DAP chief.

"I feel pity for him (Zairil). As part of the CEC, is this what he calls according to procedure? To say so, he is either ignorant or bluffing or being just a puppet for someone who is higher up," Lee said.

"I strongly believe that there are CEC members who are not fully aware about the decision (of the central leadership to take over Kedah DAP)," he added.

Lee claimed he has audio evidence on a compact disc that there was indeed a hidden agenda to oust him.

In an immediate reaction, Lim said that the re-elected CEC today had reaffirmed Zairil as the interim Kedah DAP chairperson.

He urged Lee to understand that CEC was forced to conduct the re-election and there should be no more confusion.

"We had a re-election yesterday so this is in compliance with what we describe as an unfair directive by ROS.

"So the CEC is now formed again, so perhaps he was a little bit confused about the actual position but he should not be confused any more," said Lim.

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