

Trio who quit still Umno reps, insists new MB
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Newly-minted Terengganu Menteri Besar Ahmad Razif Abdul Rahman has insisted the three BN state assemblypersons who quit to become independents are still Umno members.

"The speaker has not received anything (resignations from Umno) therefore I take it that (their resignations) are not verified yet.

"All of them including (former Terengganu MB) Ahmad Said are still (Umno assemblypersons)," he told a press conference after clocking in for the first day of work at Wisma Darul Iman.

As such, Razif (right) ruled out using his powers to dissolve the state assembly, stating: "It does not arise".

He also brushed aside PAS' call to dissolve the state assembly, adding: "They are doing what they always do."

The BN Terengganu government was on the verge of collapse after Ahmad Said led a series of resignations shortly after he was replaced by Razif as menteri besar.

Ahmad Said, who is Kijal state assemblyperson as well as Ajil state assemblyperson Ghazali Taib and Bukit Besi state assemblyperson Roslee Daud had yesterday quit Umno to become independents.

This prompted a mad scramble to bring the disgruntled representatives back as it left BN with only 14 representatives to Pakatan Rakyat's 15 on top of three independents. Roslee had since returned to BN's fold.

MB downplays Najib meeting

Razif, who appeared upbeat at work today, said he would temporarily use his office on the sixth floor of the state administrative building where he previously served as state exco for science, technology and innovation; energy, green technology and water.

"We don't want to have any more delays," he said in reference of the ongoing tussle.

However, his first day of work was cut short as he had to leave for a 9am flight.

Razif would be joining all Terengganu BN state assemblypersons in Putrajaya to meet

Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak and Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin.

The meeting is widely seen as an attempt to quell further resignations but Razif played down the matter.

"As the new Terengganu menteri besar I would like to bring our BN state assemblypersons to see the prime minister and get his counsel on managing the state," he said.

Razif also confirmed that Roslee had returned to BN's fold but was coy about Ahmad and Ghazali.

Asked whether the disgruntled duo would also be in Putrajaya, he replied: "I don't know."

He also denied knowledge if Umno was in contact with the two to convince them to stay on.

'BN stable in Terengganu'

The meeting of Terengganu Umno representative with Najib is expected to take place this afternoon at the Prime Minister's Department.

Razif claimed that the apparent internal struggle was a matter of perception and assured the public that the BN government in Terengganu would remain in power.

"We are in a stable state and BN will continue to rule and we will fight on as before, now and forever more," he said.

He added that there would be no reshuffle of the exco for the time being.

Razif also clarified that Ahmad Said's (right) daughter's wedding would be held at his own residence in Kemaman and not at the official menteri besar's residence in Kuala Terengganu.

Ahmad Said had blamed his resignation on Najib's refusal to wait until after his daughter's wedding reception before having him replaced as menteri besar.

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