

## **Khalid may dissolve assembly to end crisis**

**MalaysiaKini.com**

**Aug 15, 2014**

Pressured to resign following declaration of no confidence by the majority of Selangor assemblypersons, Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim now says that dissolution may be an option.

However, Bernama reported that the menteri besar says such matters "need to be discussed with the sultan first".

The national news agency said the MB declined to reveal if he had discussed the matter with the four remaining executive council (exco) members.

Yesterday, axed exco member Teng Chang Khim cited sources to claim that Khalid plans to dissolve assembly in November, triggering snap polls.

Either Khalid or the speaker will have to call a sitting by end November, six months after the last sitting in accordance to the Selangor constitution.

Meanwhile, he urged those accusing him of misleading the state's sultan to write to ruler himself for an explanation.

"In addition, the sultan has decreed that I do not make any decision or announcement on the position of menteri besar until his majesty returns on Aug 27 for me to have an audience with him," said Khalid in a statement today.

Khalid (right) added that the sultan reiterated that he believed the MB has majority support of the Selangor legislative assembly when he met Khalid last Monday.

He, however, did not elaborate on yesterday's press conference where 30 assemblypersons declared they have lost faith in Khalid and wanted PKR president Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail as MB instead.

His statement appears to be a response to DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang's statement yesterday accusing Khalid of misleading the sultan that he has majority support of the state assembly.

"The only honourable way for Khalid to purge his grave wrong of misleading the sultan... is to resign gracefully," Lim had said.

PAS duo face party action

The MB had in an earlier response to the 30 assemblypersons said that until a vote of no confidence is not called in the House, he still commands majority support.

This includes two PAS assemblypersons Saari Sungib (Hulu Kelang) and Hasnul Baharuddin (Morib).

Meanwhile, Selangor PAS secretary Khairuddin Othman said that the remaining 13 assemblypersons have met the party central leadership to submit the report on the duo.

This follows the duo's refusal to retract their stand despite Selangor PAS's 24-hour ultimatum.

This is as the party will only make a formal decision on whether or not to support Khalid on Aug 17.

Khairuddin said that the assemblypersons met PAS president Abdul Hadi Awang and secretary-general Mustafa Ali, and leaves it up to them to decide the disciplinary action to be taken.

Mustafa yesterday said that the party has told PKR that it rejects Wan Azizah as MB, but declined to reveal the reasons beyond saying that it has nothing to do with gender.

Selangor crisis today

10.23am: Law experts say the sultan needs to appoint a new MB after 30 out of 56 Selangor reps pledge support for Wan Azizah

11am: The document by PKR detailing Khalid's alleged faults is distributed in Sarawak

12pm: An axed exco member accuses PAS exco member Halimah Ali of withholding funds for Chinese schools

12.47pm: Merdeka Centre says Selangor voters' confidence in Pakatan is eroded due to the crisis

3.21pm: PAS sources say party reps stayed on the exco to stop Umno from being appointed

4.19pm: Shoring up Wan Azizah, PKR reminds PAS that Islam does not look at gender

4.2pm: Anti-Khalid activists ties their hand to the Selangor secretariat building gate in protest

5pm: Although the syura council urges PAS leaders to back Khalid, its vice-president Husam Musa tells the MB to resign

8.28pm: Khalid says dissolving the assembly is an option to an the end crisis

9.30pm: Selangor PAS sends report on pro-Wan Azizah duo to leadership for disciplinary action

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