

PAS exco member: Khalid is stingy, that's the only problem

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There is only one problem plaguing Selangor Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim's administration for the past six years, and that is his reluctance to approve funds for the state's programmes.

PAS' Selangor state executive council (exco) member Dr Halimah Ali, however, said that this proved how Khalid was meticulous in making decisions so that the rakyat will benefit from them.

"I only have one problem with him, and that is in asking for funds," she said light-heartedly at her office in Shah Alam today.

She explained that an exco member must first give a detailed explanation to Khalid and come out with arguments to prove that the state's funds will be used for the rakyat's benefit.

"If we don't have good arguments, don't even think about getting one ringgit," she said.

Halimah (right) also denied allegations that Khalid had always acted on his own without thinking of the rakyat or the state government.

"The exco is informed about all of his decisions, and this includes the water takeover issue.

"If it is difficult for him (Khalid) to even approve RM9, so how can it be easy for him to approve an RM9.6 billion deal," she said.

She admitted that the menteri besar's former profession as a businessman meant that certain decisions have to be made promptly.

"But such decisions are always discussed with each and every exco member.

"My experience with him in the last six years showed that everything he does was for the rakyat. That's just how his mind works."

She however did not want to elaborate on Khalid's expulsion from PKR which she regarded as a "political decision".

Stressing that she will conform to PAS' decision of supporting PKR president Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail as menteri besar, she added that she will continue to ensure that the Pakatan Rakyat administration in Selangor continues.

Selangor crisis today

11am: Selangor PAS deputy commissioner Siti Mariah Mahmud call for the MB Khalid Ibrahim-bashing to stop.

11.34pm: The Registrar of Societies issues a notice summoning PKR on Khalid's sacking from the party.

12pm: A coalition of NGOs says it will defend Khalid 'from the streets to the palace', so he can complete his second term.

12.57pm: Selangor PAS calls on its partners not to question PAS' commitment to Pakatan Rakyat.

1.45pm: PKR denounces circulation of a fake 'Kajang Move' document, alleging PKR's plans to siphon Selangor funds.

2.23pm: PAS exco member Halimah Ali admits that the main problem with Khalid is that he is tightfisted with state funds.

2.26pm: PAS leader Hanipa Maidin says it is 'nonsensical' to dissolve the state assembly as Dr Wan Azizah Ismail already has majority support.

4.56pm: MB's special officer Azrul Azwar Tajuddin lodges report on the 'fake' Kajang Move document.

5.20pm: State government sources say the sultan is expected to return to Malaysia on Aug 23, earlier than anticipated.

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