

'PAS' parliament hudud bid is against Pakatan'

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As Parliament prepares for its next sitting early next month, DAP has reiterated its stance against some PAS leaders who are bent on tabling a Private Member's Bill in the house to implement hudud in Kelantan.

DAP national organising secretary Anthony Loke said any such move goes against the Pakatan Rakyat spirit of consensus.

"The action of some PAS leaders who want to bring hudud to Parliament is akin to violating the consensus and common policy of Pakatan," he said at the opening of the Negeri Sembilan DAP convention this morning.

Loke said DAP leaders did not convince non-Muslims voters to back PAS on the platform of hudud.

"All DAP leaders worked hard before the 13th general election to convince the non-Muslim community to support Pakatan including PAS because Pakatan's goal of ruling Malaysia is not based on hudud but on good governance, integrity, anti-corruption and implementing welfare policies," he said.

In April, PAS' Kelantan deputy menteri besar Mohd Amar Nik Abdullah (left) had revealed the party intended to table a Private Member's Bill in Parliament to remove federal obstacles for the implementation of hudud in the state.

A joint committee was later formed between the Kelantan and federal government to iron out the details, prompting PAS to temporarily put off its planned Bill pending negotiations.

It had not indicated when the negotiations will be completed after which the Private Member's Bill will be tabled.

The next Parliament sitting is to start on Oct 7 and will last until Nov 27.

Fresh friction

If PAS goes ahead with the plan in this Parliament session, it is likely to create new cracks in Pakatan shortly after the resolution of the Selangor crisis which has soured ties between PAS and allies PKR and DAP.

This comes amid the recent friction between PAS and DAP in Penang after the Islamic party's councillor in the Penang Municipal Council accused the DAP-led state government of implementing "BN's pro-developer policies".

Loke said DAP was not against Islam or Muslims but insisted that hudud was not suitable in a multi-religious Malaysia.

He stressed that DAP in Negeri Sembilan will continue its cooperation with PAS and was confident the coalition will bear fruit if its members focussed on common issues such as rising cost of living, crime, corruption and improving the socio-economic position of all communities.

Loke said PKR also should take note of DAP's loyalty as the party was steadfast in standing with PKR during the crisis.

"This solidarity should be repaid with a greater role (for DAP) at all stages of the Selangor administration," he said.

The Selangor crisis was triggered after PKR attempted to replaced former Selangor menteri besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim (right) which it found increasingly difficult to work with.

However, the crisis was prolonged after PAS refused to support PKR's choice of the latter's president Wan Azizah Wan Ismail as Khalid's successor even though the position belonged to PKR.

The Selangor palace eventually appointed PKR deputy president Azmin Ali as menteri besar to break the deadlock.