

## **DAP: Did Khalid pack water deal with his bags?**

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DAP has expressed "shock" that the Selangor government reportedly does not have a copy of the water restructuring agreement signed on Sept 12, and wants Putrajaya to come clean on this.

"The question is whether the former menteri besar (Abdul Khalid Ibrahim) had not only packed his bags of his personal belongings from his office, he also mistakenly packed the mysterious water agreement with him as well, such that even the state secretary does not seem to have a copy.

"It is either that, or the federal government is showing complete disregard and disrespect to the Selangor state government by not releasing the agreement to the latter," Selangor DAP chief Tony Pua said in a statement today.

The Petaling Jaya Utara MP said withholding the document from the state, which is an equal party to the agreement "would be a severe trampling" of the state's rights.

"It is inconceivable how the entire state government, including the former executive councillors under Khalid Ibrahim, are completely clueless as to why the state doesn't have a copy of the agreement," he said.

Yesterday, MB Azmin Ali said his administration still does not have a copy of the controversial agreement that his predecessor hurriedly signed, just before leaving office.

Azmin said he would write to Putrajaya to have the document declared public, to allow open scrutiny of its details.

Meanwhile, Pua said the speed with which the "mysterious" agreement was concluded raises strong concerns that the state may have been shortchanged.

"While we had fully supported the Selangor water industry restructuring exercise led by the former menteri besar, we believe that the devil is in the details.

"The future burden to be carried by the consumers in the state will be heavily dependent on the exact terms agreed," he said.

Pua then urged the federal government to release the agreement to the state government so that the the state could discover its rights and obligations.

"Only with a copy of the agreement can the new state executive council decide on the next appropriate course of action that needs to be taken to protect the rights of Selangorians."

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