

PKR sec-gen post not a demotion, says Rafizi
MalaysiaKini.com
Oct 13, 2014

Newly-appointed PKR secretary-general Rafizi Ramli has refuted allegations that the appointment was a 'demotion' of sorts.

Instead, Rafizi said, the post of secretary-general is the key to the party's strength and machinery, as well as the nerve centre of the party.

"The strength of the party depends on the effectiveness of the secretary-general's office. It is certainly not a demotion," he told Malaysiakini.

Rafizi also rebutted allegations that the position was a 'consolation' as he had won in the party elections.

"I did not lose the elections, I won. (It is just that) the party wants specific focus on upgrading organisational effectiveness."

However, he admitted that it would be a heavy responsibility, since he would be shouldering two posts.

Apart from the secretary-general's post, Rafizi is also one of the party's elected vice-presidents.

Nevertheless, Rafizi said, he would adhere to the party decision.

PKR president Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail announced Rafizi's appointment today.

Apart from Rafizi's appointment, Seri Andalas assemblyperson Dr Xavier Jayakumar and Penampang MP Darell Leiking were appointed as the party's vice presidents.

Former secretary-general Saifuddin Nasution (left) was appointed as a election co-director, together with Lembah Pantai MP Nurul Izzah Anwar.

Fahmi Fadzil remains as the communications director while Sim Tze Tzin replaces Rafizi as strategy director.

The decision was made at a political bureau and central leadership council meeting Wan Azizah chaired last night.

Meanwhile, Rafizi said he would in his work as secretary-general focus on several key issues, such as continuing efforts to strengthen the party machinery as well as up-skilling party workers to become more effective in election work.

He also hopes to bring new talents and younger activists to prepare for the next generation of party leadership.

“I will also focus on modernising communication and information infrastructure of the party, with emphasis on rural reach-out as well as strengthening Pakatan Rakyat through its secretaries council,” said the Pandan MP.

The other appointments to the various posts various posts in PKR announced by Wan Azizah today are:

Treasurer-general: Tan Yew Kew

Deputy treasurer-general: Tengku Maraziyah Tengku Sulaiman

Legal director: R Sivarasa

Training director: Fuziah Salleh

Organising secretary: Fariz Musa

Appointed central leadership council members:

Saifuddin Nasution Ismail

Rodziah Ismail

Amirudin Shari

Mohdak Ismail

N Surendran

Mustapha Sakmud

Chairpersons of bureaus:

Understanding religion bureau: Md Nur Manuty

Parliamentarians and assemblypersons coordinating bureau: Johari Abdul

Felda and plantation community bureau: Shamsul Iskandar Mohd Akin

Appointed political bureau members:

Syed Husin Ali

Saifuddin Nasution Ismail

Johari Abdul

Mansor Othman

N Surendran

William Leong

Meanwhile, PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim said the new appointment for Rafizi is due to Azmin's busy schedule as the new Selangor menteri besar.

"However, I asked that Azmin continues monitoring (election activities) due to his experience as election director," he said.

On a separate matter, Anwar played down the suspension of two the Selangor PAS assemblypersons for going against their party in supporting Wan Azizah.

"Never mind, they are still PAS members even though they have been suspended. It's not a problem," he said.

Saari Sungib (Hulu Kelang) and Hasnol Baharuddin (Morib) had unilaterally signed a statutory declaration in support of Wan Azizah during the Selangor menteri besar crisis, without the PAS' leadership consent.