'Azmin backed stripping of Anwar's title'
MalaysiaKini.com
Dec 8, 2014

Suspended PKR member Badrul Hisham Shaharin claimed today Selangor Menteri Besar Azmin Ali had supported the palace's move to strip Anwar Ibrahim of his 'datuk seri' title.

Badrul Hisham said this was because Azmin is a member of the Selangor Royal Council, which had endorsed the decision to strip Anwar of his title.

"The sultan made a democratic decision. He brought it to the Selangor Royal Council meeting and it was unanimously endorsed.

"Who are the members of the council?... The person seated beside the sultan is Azmin Ali, who is the menteri besar," Badrul Hisham (left) told a press conference in Kuala Lumpur today.

As such, he claimed Azmin had been aware of the title revocation since November, even though it was only announced on Dec 4.

"That means Azmin agrees with the four grounds (given by the palace), which concluded that Anwar is a traitor.

"That means Azmin agrees that Anwar's 'datuk seri' title be revoked.

"That means he has been hiding and claiming that this is the wish of the palace," Badrul Hisham added.

The Selangor palace, in withdrawing the title, claimed that Anwar had been disrespectful of the state's royal institution during the menteri besar crisis.

Anwar had insisted that PKR president Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, who is also his wife, be appointed menteri besar despite the palace insisting on other candidates.

The palace later appointed Azmin as menteri besar.

Anwar remains a 'datuk seri' as he has seven other awards carrying the same title.

Meanwhile, the Menteri Besar’s Office said it would not comment on the matter today.

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