

## **Selangor to dangle by hung assembly if PAS quits**

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**By Zikri Kamarulzaman**

Should PAS quit Pakatan Rakyat, it is likely that Selangor will end up with a hung legislative assembly.

Currently, PAS and DAP have 15 seats each while PKR has 13, excluding independent assemblyperson and former menteri besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim.

There are 56 seats in the state assembly, thus 29 seats are needed to form a government with a simple majority.

Should PAS withdraw, DAP and PKR will have only 28 seats.

Concerns over Pakatan's future has been under the spotlight following rifts between DAP and PAS president Abdul Hadi Awang.

Observers expect matters to worsen in June after the PAS polls, which should see Abdul Hadi's faction take nearly full control of the party leadership.

Asked on the prospect of PAS opting out of Pakatan by then, DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng (photo) said he believed there was a possibility the coalition can still cling to power in Selangor.

"In Selangor, two PAS assemblypersons supported (PKR president Dr) Wan Azizah (Wan Ismail) so this doesn't mean that if Pakatan dissolves, the Selangor government will collapse," he told reporters.

He was referring to Hulu Kelang assemblyperson Saari Sungib and Morib assemblyperson Hasnul Baharuddin who went against Abdul Hadi and supported PKR and DAP's decision to nominate Wan Azizah as menteri besar.

With Saari and Hasnul's backing, PKR and DAP can form a state government with a simple majority through 30 seats (chart bottom).

### **Selangor PAS still committed**

However, Shah Alam MP Khalid Samad (photo) said Selangor PAS is still committed to Pakatan.

"There is no problem in the Selangor state government. Selangor PAS commissioner Iskandar Ab Samad emphasised that Pakatan has no problem in Selangor.

"If there is any problem outside of Selangor, I don't think it will result in PAS and DAP

leaving Pakatan," he said.

He said any talk of leaving Pakatan is probably posturing in the lead up to the PAS muktamar.

The majority of PAS wants to stay in the coalition, Khalid added.

"I admit there are individual leaders who are very hardline and don't see the need for PAS to stay in Pakatan.

"But as I've said before, the general members want Pakatan to survive," he said.

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