

Six steps Najib must take to stay in power

MalaysiaKini.com

May 28, 2015

Now that Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak has declared that he will serve out his term, the PM must go on an all-out offensive to secure his post.

Here are six steps Najib should take, according to veteran journalist Kadir Jasin:

-Reshuffle cabinet to by ousting unfriendly elements like Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin and Rural Development Minister Shafie Apdal;

-Make Home Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi DPM while turning over the Finance Ministry portfolio to his cousin and incumbent Defence Minister Hishammuddin Hussein. Zahid can also control the Defence Ministry;

-Take over the Home Ministry, so he can declare emergency at any hint of a vote of no confidence in Parliament;

-Hire a poison pen writer "of calibre" to smear former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad, with PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim writing the preface for the book in exchange for a few days break from prison;

-Replace Attorney-General Abdul Gani Patail with Umno lawyer Mohd Hafarizan Harun; and

-Make 1Malaysia Development Bhd debts go away by getting businessman Jho Low to arrange to sell 1MDB assets to his Arab friends.

"This would mean that 1MDB's assets including government land that it bought cheaply and the independent power producers that it bought above market price would fall into foreign hands.

"This could be the strategic aim of 1MDB," Kadir said snidely in a blog post today.

In Nigeria, Najib would be impeached

Kadir (photo) said Najib must act now given his precarious position, following the revelation that the assets held by 1MDB in Singapore is not cash as earlier said in a written reply to Parliament.

He said the amendment of the written reply, to now say that the assets are "savings in units", would be cause for impeachment proceedings elsewhere.

"In a more robust democracy, including Indonesia and Nigeria, Najib would have been referred to the ethics committee and may even face impeachment proceedings.

"Remember the impeachment of Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid in 2001? But under our law, there is no provision for impeachment by the Parliament.

"The House can, however, pass a vote of no confidence," Kadir said.

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