

DAP has no say on PKR-PAS cooperation

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By Susan Loone

DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng has declined to comment on whether the party accepts or rejects PKR's decision to continue working with PAS in Selangor and Kelantan.

In her statement yesterday, PKR president Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail expressed disappointment with the breakup of the Pakatan pact, but agreed with DAP that the coalition is dead.

"We have stated our position. You can ask PKR," Lim said when asked about the matter at a press conference in George Town today.

Lim said DAP has stated its position very clearly that Pakatan Rakyat is dead, and that it would work with PKR, and seek other like-minded parties to work with.

Asked if DAP agrees with the position Wan Azizah (photo) announced yesterday, and whether DAP would continue to work with the Selangor government, Lim's response was, "Ask PKR".

Lim, who is Penang chief minister, added: "We each have our own position. I don't want to delve on whether we accept it or not.

"Let this situation, that Pakatan is dead and no longer exists, be understood by the rakyat first."

'Not appropriate'

Asked if he was giving the rakyat time to mourn the death of Pakatan, which garnered 52 percent of the popular vote in the 2013 general election, Lim said "No, but this is the reality we must face now."

Lim continued to lay the blame on PAS for breaking Pakatan up, with its delegates backing a motion by the party's Dewan Ulama to sever ties with DAP.

The motion, much to DAP's chagrin, was accepted by the muktamar, held in Selangor from June 5 to 7, without debate.

It came about after DAP decided to cut ties with PAS president Abdul Hadi Awang for tabling a Private Member's Bill on hudud in Parliament, without consulting the Pakatan Rakyat leadership council.

Lim was also asked to respond to Selangor Menteri Besar Azmin Ali's (photo) statement that Pakatan can still be salvaged if the three parties sat down to discuss and reach a

solution on the matter.

“It is not appropriate for me to comment about Selangor, let Azmin deal with it,” Lim said.

“Let me stick to Penang for the time being. When the appropriate time comes, we will state our position,” he added.

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