

Opposition invites Muhyiddin to vote out PM

MalaysiaKini.com

July 28, 2015

By Kow Gah Chie

Muhyiddin Yassin, who was dropped as deputy prime minister today, and other patriotic BN lawmakers were called to join forces with the opposition to cast votes of no confidence in Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak in Parliament.

This is part of the new plan to save Malaysia, which was announced by Gerakan Harapan Baru (GHB) chairperson Mohamad Sabu at a joint press conference with 16 other leaders and lawmakers from DAP, PKR and GHB today.

"We are calling for a drastic action to be taken to form a transition government.

"It is time for Muhyiddin, his gang and BN lawmakers who love the country to support the establishment of a transition government through a vote of no confidence against Najib within or without Parliament," Mohamad, who is widely known as Mat Sabu, said.

A new interim prime minister would be elected, should the vote go through Parliament, to head the transition government for a one year period or until the next general election, he said.

The interim prime minister candidates would be chosen from among the elder leaders, such as Muhyiddin, Umno veteran Tengku Razaleigh, Mat Sabu, PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim, former deputy prime minister Musa Hitam and BN Backbenchers Council chairperson Shahrir Abdul Samad.

The scope of the transition government includes to reform key institutions to ensure free and fair elections, resolving the 1MDB scandal and bring the culprits to justice, he said.

Muhyiddin invited

The country should not be victimised by 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) through Najib's political struggle, Mat Sabu said.

"In the last few weeks, the country has been dragged into Umno's internal fight," he said.

This, he added, could also be seen from the split of the special task force investigating the 1MDB fiasco into two voices - those who want to save Najib and the others who want Najib prosecuted.

"Muhyiddin and few senior ministers have therefore been dropped from the cabinet today to strengthen Najib's position," Mat Sabu added.

He also called on Muhyiddin (photo) to join GHB. "Please come. I hope he can join GHB,"

said Sabu when asked about his message to Muhyiddin.

The PAS leadership was not present at the press conference.

Shah Alam MP Khalid Samad claimed the initiative will be open to all parties and nobody will be excluded.

The leaders who attended the press conference were GHB secretary Dzukefly Ahmad, PAS Kota Raja MP Siti Mariah, Sepang MP Hanipa Maidin, Kuala Krai MP Hatta Ramli, Tumpat MP Kamaruddin Jaffar, Hulu Kelang state assemblyperson Saari Sungib, Morib state assemblyperson Hasnul Baharuddin and GHB leader Izham Hashim.

DAP was represented by Petaling Jaya Utara MP Tony Pua and Kluang MP Liew Chin Tong.

PKR secretary-general Rafizi Ramli, strategy director Sim Tze Tzin and Kelana Jaya MP Wong Chen were also among those present.

The group, however, admitted there were no specific provisions that allowed for a vote of no-confidence against the prime minister or the formation of a transition government.

Rafizi said the Federal Constitution stipulates a prime minister needs to enjoy the support of the majority.

'Save Malaysia' effort

But if the prime minister is proven to have lost the confidence of the majority be it inside the House through a motion or an emergency sitting or outside the house like the constitutional crises of Perak and Selangor, then he should be removed, he said.

"Let's get the ball rolling first [...] we will come to the method of implementation later," he added.

If there were no provisions to allow for a transition government, then the country may 'import' rules from other Commonwealth countries, said Hanipa.

"This is almost the repeat of 1998 (when then deputy prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim was removed). If there is a vote of no confidence, is there not a better time for it to take place?" asked Pua.

Khalid called for the rakyat to pressure their MPs to join in this 'save Malaysia' effort.

The group also threatened to take to the streets if Najib resorted to clamping down on his critics.

"We warn Najib to not to abuse power amidst Umno infighting by arresting opposition leaders, media practitioners and those who criticise his leadership.

"If he continues Umno's convention to jail its political detractors, then we will call hundreds of thousands of rakyat to take to the streets," cautioned Sabu (photo).

Electoral watchdog Bersih, he revealed, was planning a rally.

"They will decide on the date of the rally and we will mobilise (the rakyat for the rally)."

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Source : <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/306445>