Ours must be a coalition against kleptocrats, declares Pejuang deputy chief

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Pejuang pro-tem deputy president Wira Marzuki Yahya (photo, above) said there is a need to form a coalition aimed at keeping kleptocrats at bay, instead of cooperating merely for political power.

He said losing sight of that goal has led to confusing signals, including DAP's willingness to cooperate with Umno, which is "led by kleptocrats".

Likewise, Marzuki said, Perikatan Nasional had moved to oust the Pakatan Harapan government on the grounds that DAP was controlling Malay leaders in the coalition when it was not true.

He added they also wanted to prevent PKR president Anwar Ibrahim from becoming prime minister, but they did not go through the proper democratic process.

"If Anwar commands majority support, then he should be accepted as the prime

minister. if PN did not want to accept him, they have to prove in Parliament that he does not enjoy majority support.

"That should have been the basis, but instead, Muhyiddin Yassin and PN chose trickery to become prime minister and form the government," he said in a press statement.

Another contradiction, Marzuki said, was Anwar's decision not to vote against Muhyiddin's Budget 2021 during the second reading, despite claiming that the prime minister had lost majority support.

Marzuki said these contradictions, including the recent Perak crisis which saw Umno ousting its own partner Bersatu as the menteri besar, was ultimately about power.

"Amid all these (contradictions), we feel the time has come that we guide the people out of confusion due to coalitions that are formed merely for power and under the guise of religion, race and country.

"We need to form a new coalition that holds true to our struggle, which is to keep kleptocrats and their new allies, who are prepared to engage in corruption for power, at bay," he said.

Marzuki pointed out that amid the political manoeuvring, more corruption cases were being dropped.

On Dec 7, former Umno secretary-general Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor (above) was granted a discharge no amounting to acquittal in his RM1 million corruption case.

In June, former Sabah chief minister Musa Aman's corruption charges were also dropped and he later proceeded to mount a coup against the then Warisan-led Sabah government.

In May, former prime minister Najib Abdul Razak's step-son Riza Shahriz Abdul Aziz, was also granted a discharge not amounting to acquittal with regard to his money laundering charges involving US$248 million of state-owned 1MDB funds.

Marzuki said the coalition against kleptocrats should not only comprise political parties but also all MPs and assemblypersons who cannot accept such practises.

"This is what we want to champion and we are confident that every principled political leader will stand together to stop kleptocrats and the corruption from leading the country," he said.

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