

**Sitting extended if Pakatan behaves**  
**Malaysiakini.com**  
**November 29, 2010**

The Perak state government will extend the state legislative assembly sitting, which begins tomorrow, depending on the conduct of the Pakatan Rakyat state assemblypersons.

NONE“The sitting may be longer if Pakatan behaves themselves,” said state senior exco member Hamidah Osman told a press conference today.

“They are wasting precious state man-hours by debating on irrelevant issues not connected to the pressing issues related to the people.

“However, the final say lies with (speaker R) Ganesan,” she added.

Pakatan leaders are crying foul over the sitting which is scheduled for just one day, but will see the tabling of the 2011 budget, an amendment to the state constitution and three other motions.

They claim that there is insufficient time being allocated for proper debates and accused BN of trying to bulldoze the passing of bills.

'We have a surplus'

In another development, Hamidah accused Pantai Remis state assemblyperson Nga Kor Ming of twisting the facts on the state's financial health.

“He (Nga) has been a former executive councilor and knows the true financial status of the state but he chooses to do otherwise for political reasons,” she said.

Nga had previously claimed that the total deficit incurred by the government over the past year had amounted to RM170 million.

This was based on the 2010 budget tabled on Oct 28 last year, the RM105 million supplementary budget tabled on Aug 3 and the forthcoming budget to be tabled tomorrow.

In retort, Hamidah said that when Pakatan was ruling Perak for 11 months, they had tabled a budget with a projected deficit of RM25 million for 2009, but after BN took over, the state registered a surplus of RM9.54 million, resulting in savings of RM34.54 million.

Goodies in stored

She added that for the 2010 budget, the state had projected a RM23.89 million deficit, but till date there is a surplus of RM84 million in the state coffers.

Despite this, Hamidah said that news reports on Nga's statement had damaged the image of the state government.

“The damage has been done as the perception (that the state coffers are in the red) has been set in the minds of the people,” she lamented.

She said this in a joint media conference with fellow exco member Mah Hang Soon and

state financial officer Jamalludin Al Amini Ahmad state secretariat headquarters in Ipoh.

When asked for a preview of the state budget, Hamidah said that there will be a lot of goodies for the public, reiterating Menteri Besar Zambry Abd Kadir's opinion that he would table a "social budget".

Copyright © 1999-2007 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd.

Source : <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/149521>