

Pakatan trio face six-month suspension
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The federal government has recommended the suspension of its two opposition members for releasing embargoed information on the probe involving Opposition Leader Anwar Ibrahim.

sibu by election karpal singhAccording to the Order Paper for today, the motion by the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department is scheduled to be tabled against Karpal Singh (DAP-Bukit Gelugor), R Sivarasa (PKR-Subang) and Azmin Ali (PKR-Gombak) for violating Standing Order 85.

This regulation states that any statement recorded in front of Rights and Privileges Committee must be embargoed until the decision is tabled before the Dewan Rakyat.

"On Dec 6, the MP from Gombak through an emergency motion under Standing Order 18(1) touched on the statements and letter that was presented to the rights and privileges committee on Dec 3," reads the Order Paper.

"The MPs from Bukit Gelugor and Subang had insulted and violated the rights and privileges of a member of parliament. It is also a insult to the House."

pakatan cij parliament pc 131108 sivarasaIt was argued that Karpal and Sivarasa (left), both members of the bipartisan committee, had had violated the Standing Orders based on Azmin's motion to question the committee's intentions to suspend Anwar from the Dewan Rakyat without calling for his defence.

Yesterday, Karpal claimed that the committee had tabled its majority report to the Dewan Rakyat, which called for Anwar to be suspended from Parliament for six months.

He was alleged to have mislead the House by claiming that public relations firm Apco Worldwide - said to be the chief architect of the Najib administration's 1Malaysia campaign - had a hand in former Israeli premier Ehud Barak's 'One Israel' initiative.

Karpal and Sivarasa had walked out of the committee's meeting on Dec 3 to protest the manner in which investigations were being performed.

Following this, they held a press conference alleging that the committee was basing their investigation solely on correspondence from Apco Worldwide and the Hansard.

Azmin is accused of disclosing details of the Dec 3 meeting of rights and privileges committee on Dec 6.

Bid to regain two-thirds majority

Meanwhile, the opposition has accused the ruling coalition of seeking to regain its two-thirds majority in Parliament through the suspension of the four MPs.

"By suspending four Pakatan MPs, BN shall also get the five independent MPs to get simple 2/3 majority," said ousted Perak menteri besar Mohammad Nizar Jamaluddin, who is also

Bukit Gantang MP.

According to Nizar, the BN is using this backdoor method of regaining two-thirds majority so as to push through the redrawing of the electoral boundaries to favour the ruling coalition.

"They can even delineate, (and) add new seats from Sabah, Sarawak."

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