

Khair in the dock: PR leaders not buying it
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SHAH ALAM - Selangor's former Menteri Besar Mohd Khir Toyo (pic) was on Monday dragged to court alongwith a company director for corruption charges related to his massive mansion in Shah Alam, but PR leaders are not congratulating the government just yet.

Khair and Ditamas Sdn Bhd director Shamsuddin Haryoni were charged under Section 165 of the Penal Code, for accepting bribe in the form of two plots of land in Section 7, Shah Alam, for his palatial residence at a substantial discount from Shamsuddin.

Shamsudin was alleged to abet Khair by selling him two plots of lands, which he bought for RM6.5 million for just RM3.5 million.

Both pleaded not guilty and were set free on RM750,000 bail.

However, the latest prosecution of one of Selangor's most senior UMNO leaders failed to impress Pakatan Rakyat leaders, who dismissed it as a pre-election ploy by Barisan Nasional.

Among those doubting the Attorney General's sincerity was DAP veteran Lim Kit Siang.

"Believe it or not? Khair Toyo corruption case, AG (said) delay due to thorough probe," he twitted about Khair's surprise day in court, calling it a pre-general election drama.

DAP's Pasir Pinji state assemblyman, Thomas Su said Khair should sleep soundly over the choice of the public prosecutor in the case, Abdul Razak Musa, the person who became a target of jokes following his self-strangling act at the Teoh Beng Hock's inquest to prove a point that the act was possible.

"Khair Toyo must be a happy man to have him. Will there be more clown's act?" Thomas posted on Twitter.

Recalling the corruption cases involving Perwaja steel and former UMNO Supreme Council member Norza Zakaria, PAS's Titiwangsa MP Dr Lo' Lo Ghazali put up a picture of pessimism, saying the impending trial would end up as another show.

PKR's former deputy president Dr Syed Husin Ali questioned whether Khair would be charged for other corruption charges instead of just solely on the purchase of the land for his 'palace'.

PKR's Communication director Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad said the move to charge Khair could be a sign that BN had realised that the former MB was a liability to Barisan Nasional in its bid to recapture the state in the next election.

"Another sign snap polls soon," he added, echoing similar conclusions by several other PR leaders. - Harakah daily

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