

Rafizi: MoU more democratic than Muhyiddin's actions as PM

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PUTRAJAYA: The memorandum of understanding signed between Pakatan Harapan and coalitions supporting the unity government is more democratic compared with the actions of Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin's government.

PKR deputy president Rafizi Ramli said the democracy in the unity government was also exemplified in the motion of confidence for the prime minister, which will take place at the Dewan Rakyat sitting today.

"Usually, there are two votes in Parliament related to the government's legitimacy.

"First is a vote of no confidence in the prime minister. Second is when the budget is tabled. Otherwise, the 148 members of par-



Rafizi Ramli

liament supporting the unity government are free to uphold their own opinions or expertise, and are not bound by Clause 4 of this agreement.

"This is far more democratic compared with the situation during Muhyiddin's and Perikatan Nasional's time in power.

"When his government lost the majority, he imposed an emergency to govern without confirming any majority support in Parliament.

"It's funny when PN says that this (MoU) is a dangerous move that could create a dictatorship under the 10th prime minister," said Rafizi in a video posted on Facebook yesterday.

On Saturday, Masjid Tanah MP Datuk Mas Ermieyati Samsudin said the MoU forced MPs to support the prime minister and described it as a prelude to dictatorship. She criticised the clause

requiring lawmakers to vacate their seats if they failed to toe the party's line and voted against the prime minister or the government.

Rafizi, who is economy minister, said he and Selayang MP Willie Leong were among those who drafted the agreement.

"We want to save this country from being victimised by political frogs. We thought the anti-party hopping law would end the practice. However, as soon as the results of the 15th General Election were out, PN tried to 'kidnap' 10 Barisan Nasional MPs to support Muhyiddin.

"If this keeps happening, then the country will continue to be in disarray because a government

would be formed by the personal support of MPs and not through party agreements."

Rafizi said party hopping would lead to leaders jostling for posts, which was why PH took measures to ensure political stability in the country.

"Any formation of government must be done among parties and not individual MPs.

"With this agreement, the participation of parties in the unity government represent their policies and stances."

He said MPs trying to sabotage the vote of confidence, or were found to have been "bought" to disrupt the legitimacy of the government, would be in violation of their party's stance as well.