

Umno slams S'gor MB for saying state will not take part in GE before June
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PUTRAJAYA: Umno has lashed out at Selangor Mentri Besar Tan Sri Khalid Ibrahim for refusing to participate in the upcoming general election if it is called before June next year.

Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal said holding elections separately would not just trouble the voters but also costly.

"Selangor voters residing outside the state would have to return twice to cast their votes and that will incur some costs.

"This is not to mention the cost to hold a series of elections," he told newsmen here on Saturday.

Khalid had on Thursday cited the just approved state budget for next year as the reason for the possibility of not participating in the election if it was called before June.

"We do not want to shortchange the people," he said after closing the state assembly sitting.

Mohd Shafie also said the refusal indicated that the Parti Keadilan Rakyat-led Selangor government was not confident in retaining the state.

"They are not confident of getting the support from the people and I think that is the reason for it," he said.

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