

312 quit PKR division
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THE Parti Keadilan Rakyat Bukit Gelugor division was dealt another blow when more than 300 members, including six committee members, resigned yesterday.

On Wednesday, the division's chief, Lim Boo Chang, announced his decision to quit the party. Lim also gave up his post of Penang Island Municipal councillor.

Leading the pack yesterday was division deputy chief Roslan Rahman Shah, who said they had lost confidence in the party's leadership.

Others who quit included division assistant treasurer Diong Chong Mee, several committee members and its Youth chief, Shahul Hameed Abu Kadeer.

Roslan said there had been many unfulfilled promises and the party leadership was only interested in looking after its own people and not the grassroots.

He said internal squabbling was another reason the 312 members to quit the party.

"We are treated like enemies by the party leadership although we are members. We have been meaning to do so (quit the party)... now is the right time," he told reporters here yesterday.

Present were Lim and Umno Bayan Baru division chief Datuk Abdul Rahim Saibu.

Roslan said the 312 would join a newly-set up non-governmental organisation, Pertubuhan Kebajikan Sahabat Islam Pulau Pinang, which he claimed was Barisan Nasional-friendly.

He also did not rule out the possibility that they might join BN in the near future.

Ayub Khan Md Ishak, who joined the party more than a year ago, said he was disappointed with the division's former chief, S. Raveentharan, who made wild allegations against Lim and Roslan.

Raveentharan lost to Lim for the division chief post in the party elections last year.

Ayub said members lodged countless complaints against Raveentharan but their complaints fell on deaf ears.

"We do not see any point being in the party anymore if our concerns are not being taken into account."

Meanwhile, Lim said: "There are more who will quit the party. It is just a matter of time for them to announce their decision."

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