

Ramasamy says ready to leave DAP
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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 11 — Penang Deputy Chief Minister II Dr P. Ramasamy declared today he was prepared to leave DAP after being referred to the party's disciplinary committee over his public spat with chairman Karpal Singh.

"If I have to leave party, I will leave party. I'm not after positions and I'm not interested in those kinds of things," the Penang DAP deputy chief said in his speech at the state chapter's conference today.

Karpal also earlier announced the party had received a complaint against Ramasamy from a local leader — Kampung Juru division chief Tan Ah Huat — over the row, which began when the Batu Kawan MP said he would defend his federal and state seats in the general elections.

"If someone does not conform to DAP practices, the party can take action against anyone, no matter how high (the position). It is as simple as that," the Bukit Gelugor MP told reporters when asked what action the party would take against Ramasamy if the latter fails to retract his "godfather" remark and apologise to Karpal.

But Ramasamy, who is also Prai assemblyman, said "I don't understand the meaning of that word" when asked if he would apologise to Karpal.

A group of nearly 200 threw their support behind Ramasamy this morning following the recent row between the two leaders.

As Karpal arrived at the convention venue at about 9am this morning, the group shouted "we want Ramasamy" and "pension-lah" at the Bukit Gelugor MP.

Ramasamy announced last week he would defend his seats and that DAP would field three Indian women in the next general election.

Karpal then responded by saying the party would not tolerate "warlords" like the Penang DAP deputy chief pushing for any one person to be fielded as a candidate.

Ramasamy hit back by saying that DAP should not only be rid of warlords but godfathers as well.

But Karpal responded in his speech at the conference today by asking, "Who is Ramasamy anyway?"

"If he (Ramasamy) does not behave, then action will be taken against him," he said.

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