

**Not Necessary For Deputy MB As Acting Mb Will Do - Mahdzir
Bernama
September 6, 2011**

KUALA NERANG (Kedah), Sept 6 (Bernama) -- Kedah opposition leader Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid said today it was not necessary to create a post of deputy menteri besar because an acting menteri besar could be appointed if the menteri besar falls ill.

"The menteri besar is backed by 10 executive councillors who have their own portfolios. If the menteri besar is ill for more than 28 days, an acting menteri besar can be appointed. Only a menteri besar can make executive decisions and an acting menteri besar will have similar powers," said the former Kedah menteri besar.

Mahdzir was asked to comment on the proposal by Kedah Gerakan Youth to create the post of deputy menteri besar as Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Azizan Abdul Razak, who suffered a heart attack in July, is reportedly unwell.

He said the appointment of an acting menteri besar was dependent upon the health of the menteri besar.

Mahdzir, prior to his appointment as the menteri besar on Dec 28, 2005, had been acting menteri besar from July 17, 2005, to Dec 27, 2005, when the then menteri besar, Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain, was unwell.

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