

Najib leaves Koh to decide on quit calls
The Malaysian Insider
October 16, 2011
By Yow Hong Chieh

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 16 — Datuk Seri Najib Razak today dodged questions on his support for Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon, leaving the Gerakan president to handle the latest calls for his resignation.

When asked if he backed the beleaguered party president, the prime minister said he would leave it to Koh to decide on the matter.

“Whatever it is I have a good working relationship with Tan Sri Koh Tsu Koon... so I’ll leave it in his hands and I think he knows what needs to be done,” he told reporters after attending the Gerakan National Delegates Assembly here.

Gerakan Wanita chief Datuk Tan Lian Hoe called Koh a weak leader yesterday and asked him to buck up or step down.

But Koh brushed aside her remarks and insisted he would lead Gerakan into the next general election, while pledging to make “tough decisions” on the party’s direction and candidate line-up for snap polls expected soon.

Gerakan Youth chief Lim Si Pin had earlier defended Koh, calling on all party leaders to close ranks and support the president.

Koh has been repeatedly criticised by party members and leaders for his leadership.

Exactly a year ago, he had a similar falling out with his predecessor, Tun Dr Lim Keng Yaik, who quit his post as party advisor, citing dissatisfaction with Koh’s performance.

In an outburst, Lim had also griped over the direction of the flailing Barisan Nasional (BN) component party and claimed he was merely articulating the views of many party leaders.

Gerakan, which helmed Penang for nearly 40 years since 1969, lost the state and every seat to Pakatan Rakyat parties of DAP, PKR and PAS in an embarrassing Election 2008.

Only Umno, winning 11 seats, remain of BN in the 40-seat state assembly. DAP made a clean sweep and secured all 19 state seats it contested, while PKR won nine and PAS, one.

The Malaysian Insider
Copyright © 2011 The Malaysian Insider
Source:
<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/najib-leaves-koh-to-decide-on-quit-calls/>