

Hasan Ali wanted to become Selangor MB, says Khalid
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By Shazwan Mustafa Kamal

SHAH ALAM, Feb 9 — Khalid Samad today charged that Datuk Hasan Ali had plans to become Selangor menteri besar in 2008, and that the sacked PAS leader wanted to work with Umno to achieve his goal.

The Shah Alam MP said that Hasan was “unsatisfied” when PAS rejected Umno’s overtures towards inter-party unity talks, and that he (Hasan) had single-handedly tried to sabotage the ties between PAS, the DAP and PKR ever since then.

“From the start, he was not satisfied when PAS refused to join Umno. If we joined Umno, his chances of becoming MB were good.

“He has consistently been giving a negative perception about the Selangor PR government to the PAS leadership, working behind the scenes, trying to make Pakatan Rakyat fail... the perception he gave was that it was ‘impossible’ (for PAS) to work with PR parties,” Khalid (picture) told reporters here.

The Selangor PAS deputy commissioner said Hasan had arranged a meeting between PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang and former Prime Minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and former Selangor MB Dr Mohd Khir Toyo just after the 2008 general election.

“I replaced Hasan and Datuk Mustafa Ali replaced Datuk Hadi in the meeting. Pak Lah (Abdullah) said there was a concern that Selangor would end up becoming a minority Malay government because there only 16 Malay lawmakers, eight from PAS, eight from PKR.

“I said easy solution, give PAS five seats then... he (Abdullah) said no. We told them why should we join forces with Umno?” said Khalid.

He accused Hasan of not being a “team player” and that the former PAS man did not understand the reality of coalition politics.

Hasan’s argument that the DAP would turn Malaysia into a republic if PR won in the next general election did not make sense, said Khalid.

“There are 222 parliamentary seats. DAP only contested 46 in the last election. If you want to rule or turn the country into a republic, you need two-thirds majority or at least 112 seats.

“Hasan is lying to the Malays, fooling them so that they will support Umno no matter how bad Umno is,” he said.

“DAP cannot rule Malaysia alone. It has to share power,” added Khalid.

Hasan has reaffirmed his decision not to appeal his sacking from PAS, saying he would not return to the Islamist party as long as it is controlled by “parasites”.

The former Selangor executive councillor, who was axed from PAS and then the Pakatan Rakyat (PR) state government in early January, had told a press conference that he made his decision after consulting religious scholars and professionals from within and outside the party.

The Gombak Setia assemblyman said he had faced difficulties in championing Islam, Malays and the monarchy in Selangor after PAS preferred to listen to PKR and the DAP rather than its own members.

Hasan had said he would start a new non-governmental organisation called Jati to continue defending Islam, Malay rights and the Malay Rulers, describing it as a "third force" to help determine who should form the next government.

The former Selangor PAS chief was expelled from the party last month for having persistently undermined PAS's leadership.

He has also repeatedly accused the party of deviating from its Islamic cause.

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