

Kadir accused of 'vote buying' to retain his position
New Straits Times
11 March 2012

BANDAR BAHARU: Former information minister Tan Sri Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir is least qualified to talk on money politics as the former Kulim Bandar Baharu member of parliament had allegedly used money to retain his position in the Umno division for three decades.

Kulim Bandar Baharu Umno veterans claimed that Kadir had used money to "buy" Umno delegates to preserve his post as division chief and to wipe out his critics.

Mat Darus Abdullah, 82, likened Kadir's recent allegation that Barisan Nasional had bought votes ranging from RM200 to RM1,000 in the last general election as only "opening skeletons from his own closet".

The former teacher, who had served as the division committee member for 20 years, said he was shocked to read Kadir's "revelation".

Mat Darus said it was bemusing for a person who had allegedly practiced money politics to sustain his power in the Umno division to make such an accusation towards BN.

"Who would know best about vote buying than the person who had practiced it?," quipped Mat Darus when met at his home in Kampung Sungai Salleh, Serdang, near here.

Mat Darus said his fallout with Kadir began when he questioned the former minister's failure to develop and create job opportunities in the constituency.

He further claimed that following the open criticism, he had failed to defend his post in the 2002 divisional election after a number of delegates, including those from his own branch were allegedly "bought over" by Kadir.

"We must ask him why he has come up with such an allegation against BN now and not when he was in the government as a cabinet minister?"

Mat Darus's sentiment was shared by Hassan Putih, 60, who was among the Umno members sidelined because they had differences of opinion with Kadir.

Hassan said that he and Mat Darus had decided to reveal Kadir's true colours after the latter shamed the Kulim Bandar Baharu constituents by alleging that they had accepted money to vote for BN.

Copyright © 2012 The New Straits Times Press (Malaysia) Berhad.

Source: <http://www.nst.com.my/local/politics/kadir-accused-of-vote-buying-to-retain-his-position-1.58426>