

**Azizan accepts Pas panel**  
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**By ADIB POVERA**

It's to ensure Pakatan retains Kedah, says MB

MENTERI Besar Datuk Seri Azizan Abdul Razak has come to terms with the setting up of the steering committee by the Pas central working committee, to oversee the running of the state government.

Admitting that he does not know everything, Azizan said the committee was necessary to ensure Pakatan Rakyat retained the state government in the next general election.

"The general election is just around the corner, and the situation is like a storm in a teacup.

"The Pas leadership is just worried about the general election. You can all see that I don't know everything. So, the steering committee is important," he said yesterday.

The steering committee, headed by former Kelantan deputy menteri besar Datuk Abdul Halim Abdul Rahman, was formed as part of the solution to the leadership crisis in Kedah.

Party secretary-general Datuk Mustafa Ali, when announcing the five-member committee on Monday, said it would monitor and offer advice to all Pas and Pakatan Rakyat-led states.

Azizan said the Pas leadership was concerned with the situation in Kedah, and because of this the steering committee was set up.

"They (the leadership) could have taken things for granted in Kedah. They had assumed it would be smooth sailing for Pas in Kedah and nothing serious could happen. But now that things have happened, the party leadership has come to us to mend things."

On the absence of a representative from Kedah in the steering committee, Azizan said it did not matter because they were all his friends.

"It's just like me with all of you. It is normal for reporters to run me down. I am happy with the setting up of the committee which will make sure we do our work."

Other members of the steering committee are Mustafa, Johor Pas commissioner Datuk Mahfuz Muhammad, Tumpat member of parliament Datuk Kamaruddin Jaafar and Pas central executive committee member and lawyer Asmuni Awi.

The committee was first proposed by Pas' central leadership to resolve the fallout between Azizan and Kedah Pas deputy commissioner 1 Datuk Phahrolrazi Zawawi.

On the reappointment of Phahrolrazi and fellow Kedah Pas rebel Datuk Dr Ismail Salleh, Azizan said the date for the swearing-in would be set by the Sultan of Kedah Council of Regency.

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