

Comment by PKR rep riles Indians
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ALOR STAR: A Kedah Parti Keadilan Rakyat member of parliament is under fire after he was alleged to have made a statement that has irked the party's Indian supporters.

Merbok MP Datuk Rashid Din was alleged to have told a secretary of a temple in Sungai Petani near here that Pakatan did not hope for votes from the Indian community.

He was alleged to have made such a remark during an SMS conversation with Sri Siti Vinayagar Temple's secretary V. Kumaraguru over the relocation of the temple last week.

Excerpts of the alleged text message conversation between Rashid and Kumaraguru were widely circulated in several political blogs, drawing criticism against the first-term MP.

State MIC chairman S. Ananthan said it was arrogant of the MP if he had made such a remark.

"Such remarks hurt the Indian community, especially those who have voted for him during the general election in 2008."

State Umno liaison committee chairman Datuk Ahmad Bashah Md Hanipah said it was immature of Rashid if it was true that he had sent the messages.

Rashid could not be contacted for comments.

Kedah PKR chairman Datuk Wan Salleh Wan Isa denied the claims and added that the party valued the support of the Indian community.

He said the party's legal bureau and Rashid would lodge a police report over the matter soon.

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