

Kedah DAP's threat over seat allocation
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ALOR STAR: Kedah DAP has threatened to go it alone in the next general election if its request for four additional state seats and two parliamentary seats is rejected.

Its chairman, Lee Guan Aik, said the party would be left with no choice but to take on its partners in Pakatan Rakyat if the matter was not resolved soon.

"We are still waiting for a response from the Pas and Parti Keadilan Rakyat leadership on our request.

"The matter has been prolonged for far too long," he said when asked about the allocation of seats among Pakatan partners in Kedah.

An anxious Lee, who is also Kota Darulaman assemblyman, claimed that there had been no proper discussion on seat allocation between PKR and DAP in Kedah.

"We have no problems with Kedah Pas and we know the party has resolved the seat allocation with PKR for the state. However, the seat allocation between DAP and PKR in Kedah has yet to be finalised."

Kedah DAP has requested to contest the Alor Star and Padang Serai parliamentary seats and five additional state seats -- Bakar Bata, Gurun, Bakar Arang, Lunas and Derga -- besides defending Kota Darulaman.

In the last general election, Kedah DAP did not contest any parliamentary seats and was forced to take on PKR in Derga after it claimed that the party betrayed it at the last minute.

Lee said the situation in the last general election was different since there was no real pact among the opposition parties in Kedah then.

"It is very different now and we believe we can deliver better for Pakatan if given the chance.

"If possible, we, too, do not want any contest with our partners in the coming general election but we need to know fast on the outcome of our request."

Kedah PKR chief Datuk Wan Ahmad Wan Salleh said it was up to the party leadership to decide on the seat allocation with Kedah DAP.

"I believe the matter will be resolved over the next few weeks and we must avoid any contests among us for any seats."

The incumbents for Bakar Bata, Gurun and Derga are from Barisan Nasional, while Bakar Arang and Lunas are now held by independents after they quit PKR in 2009.

The incumbent for Alor Star is Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Seri Chor Chee Heung, while that of Padang Serai is N. Gobalakrishnan, who quit PKR last year.

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