

PKR denies Treasury officer is George Kent whistleblower
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By Ida Lim

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 15 — PKR has denied claims by pro-Umno bloggers that the Ministry of Finance's (MoF) Datuk Fauziah Yaacob is the whistleblower for the controversial award of the Ampang LRT Line extension project to the George Kent joint-venture.

PKR said today the "attacks" against the ministry procurement committee's secretary are meant to warn the civil service not to go against the decisions made by the Barisan Nasional (BN) federal government.

"I can confirm that Datuk Fauziah Yaacob is not the individual responsible for giving the documents to Keadilan," PKR Wanita chief Zuraida Kamaruddin told reporters here.

"We feel this attack on Datuk Fauziah Yaacob who is a very senior civil servant...is intended to strike fear and intimidation among civil servants," said PKR's Rafizi Ramli, who was also present at the press conference.

He claimed that the bloggers who had written on Fauziah "receive support" from Umno leaders, with "half of them paid by Umno".

The PKR strategic director said he found the bloggers' "attack" to be an "unethical move by BN and Umno to warn whistleblowers especially from the civil servants."

"I think they fear that more and more civil servants will come forward and become whistleblowers."

Rafizi has repeatedly accused Datuk Seri Najib Razak of interfering in the tender bid and granting the multimillion contract to George Kent, which he claimed was controlled by a "close associate" of the prime minister and which also scored one of the lowest points in the technical and commercial evaluation for the project.

Last month, state-owned infrastructure firm Syarikat Prasarana Negara Bhd announced that the George Kent-Lion Pacific joint venture (GKLP-JV) had won the deal, which George Kent said is worth RM956 million.

George Kent had also denied the "baseless allegations that GKLP-JV failed the full technical and commercial evaluations."

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