

**Protest Over Transfer: Pakatan's Interference In State's Administration**  
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ALOR SETAR, Oct 9 (Bernama) -- Pressure from Pakatan Rakyat councillors for the state government to act against State Secretary Datuk Rasli Basir for transferring out a district council president to another area last month is seen as the opposition's interference in the state's administration.

Kedah Umno liaison chief Datuk Ahmad Bashah Md Hanipah said the putting up of banners calling on Rasli to quit his post was rude and an embarrassment for the state government.

"This is tactless and showing disrespect for a senior state government official. They are insulting Datuk Rasli as if he has no pride," he said in a statement, here, today.

Ahmad Bashah was commenting on the action of Pakatan Rakyat councillors from the Kubang Pasu District Council for their continuing protest against the transfer of council president Ahmad Fisol Md Nor to Sungai Petani, including holding demonstrations.

In their latest move, they have put up banners in several locations urging Menteri Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Azizan Abdul Razak to take action against Rasli and calling on him to quit his post as State Secretary.

In light of this, Ahmad Bashah urged the holding of demonstrations and display of protest banners against Rasli to stop and for them to apologise to him.

"I see their actions as not only insulting the State Secretary but also as staging a war against a senior official of the Kedah civil service," he said.

Ahmad Bashah said Rasli, as a government official, was doing what was best in carrying out the duties entrusted to him and in ensuring a smooth state administration.

"Why are they (the councillors) making so much fuss? Transfer of government officials is a normal thing in administration. Who are they to tell the State Secretary who could be transferred out and who should not?"

"There's no need to interfere in a state government official's administration. Let him carry out his duties professionally," he said, adding that such demonstrations and protests against a government official had never happened before in the state.

Meanwhile, Kedah Gerakan Youth chief Tan Keng Liang said the Pakatan Rakyat parties always targeted the state's civil servants for blame when problems occurred in the state government which they controlled.

He said as a government official, the State Secretary was only following orders from the Menteri Besar and state executive council, so the demonstrations and other protest actions should instead be directed at the state government headed by Azizan.

"They are attacking the wrong person. It's a state administration issue involving their own party member. But it has become the norm in Kedah to blame the civil servants when there's a problem," he said when contacted today.

Tan said the opposition parties were only good at blaming others and refused to admit their own mistakes, resulting in one problem after another arising in their administration.

"Actually, when there's such a problem, the one that should be blamed is the state government itself, but they always look for scapegoats," he said.

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