

**Explain blacklist, Sabah PKR rep tells state BN  
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BY CLARA CHOOI**

KUALA LUMPUR, June 3 — Sabah PKR MP Darell Leiking today demanded the state spell out how long it is barring entry to opposition leaders, saying the information was crucial to help plan future programmes.

Specifically referring to the deportation of Lembah Pantai MP Nurul Izzah Anwar last Thursday, Leiking questioned if Sabah Deputy Speaker Datuk Johnny Mositun had been accurate when he claimed the ban had just been for a day.

“Can I ask Datuk Johnny Mositun on what is that ‘threat to the state security’ that Nurul Izzah poses to Sabah and can he confirm that she is banned only for that day only?”

“His verification will be of great help for us to find out and to get bottom of the facts as there are many speculations as to why Nurul was denied entry and deported from Sabah,” the Penampang MP said in a statement here.

“Also, a verification from the deputy Speaker of the State assembly on whether the ‘ban’ is only for one day is also a crucial information as that would assist Nurul on her future programmes in Sabah,” he added.

Leiking was referring to Mositun’s remarks in the Daily Express today where the latter was quoted saying that Nurul Izzah had been barred from entering Sabah last week for just a day and because she was deemed a threat to state security.

From the statement, Leiking said it was reasonable to assume that Mositun was privy and aware of the actual reason behind Nurul Izzah’s deportation.

The deputy PKR secretary-general, however, also asked for confirmation from Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Musa Aman on whether the ban had been a pre-planned decision by the state Cabinet.

Earlier today, The Malaysian Insider reported the contents of a leaked letter from Musa’s office to the state’s Immigration Department confirming that apart from Nurul Izzah, her father Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Lim Kit Siang, Datuk Ambiga Sreenevasan and Rafizi Ramli are also on a blacklist barring them from entering the east Malaysian state.

The May 21 letter, which sports the letterhead from Musa’s office, also says the list was given the Sabah Cabinet’s stamp of approval following its first meeting last month on May 15 - 10 days after the 13th general election.

“The Cabinet has agreed that the chief minister invoke his absolute powers under the Immigration Act, and in accordance with certification from the Sabah Royal Malaysian Police Special Branch chief, not to land these individuals to Sabah,” the letter said, before it listed out the names of the five politicians and Bersih 2.0 co-chairman.

According to Sabah DAP chief Jimmy Wong, a reliable source from the Immigration Department had leaked a copy of the first page of the document to him.

The document was emailed to The Malaysian Insider this morning. From the single page, the duration of the blacklist or its reason, was not stated.

When contacted, Lim described the ban "ridiculous", pointing out that the government was making a mockery of democracy by not only banning its own citizens from entering a state in the country, but legally elected representatives.

"Of course this is not my first time... I am probably the most banned leader... I've been banned from Sabah, from Sarawak... but I thought we have passed those days.

"It looks like we are still in the thick of it," he complained.

Last Thursday, Nurul Izzah was barred from entering Sabah upon arriving in Kota Kinabalu to celebrate Pesta Kaamatan, or the Harvest Festival, in her personal capacity.

Explaining the ban on Saturday, Musa was reported saying that those who pose a threat to the Sabah ideals of peace harmony will not be welcomed to the state.

He added that state never restricted other opposition leaders before the polls, but believed Nurul Izzah had different intentions this time.

"Now that the elections are over, their leader refuses to accept the verdict. It is a case of sour grapes and ungentlemanly conduct. He wants to rile up the masses to rally throughout the country to show his, and I repeat, his discontent," he said.

"We have reason to believe that Nurul Izzah's intentions to come to Sabah, this time around, may not be as innocent as she or her fellow opposition members make it out to be," he added.

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