

DAP gives in to RoS, decides to hold re-election of central executive committee
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The DAP has decided to hold a re-election of its central executive committee (CEC) to avoid deregistration of the party.

Party chairman Karpal Singh (pic) said the CEC had resolved last night to hold fresh elections, in the interest of the party, despite its stand that the directive from the Registrar of Societies (RoS) did not have the sanctity of authority of law.

"DAP had made efforts to obtain the reasons for RoS' directive and the law upon which that directive was based.

"In fact, DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng recently sought to meet with RoS to discuss the position but they declined to give him an appointment.

"To compound the position, the party's repeated requests to the RoS to be supplied with the complaints made against the party have been futile," Karpal said in a statement.

Under these circumstances, as directed by the RoS, the party has no choice and the CEC of term 2008-2011 will meet next Thursday to make the necessary preparations to hold fresh re-elections, he said.

The complaint to the RoS came after several disgruntled members claimed the election in December last year was not properly conducted after the party announced that a glitch in the tabulation had resulted in the wrong candidate being elected to the CEC.

Based on these complains, the RoS initiated the investigation and ruled that fresh elections had to be held.

The party, however, had explained to the RoS and admitted there was a mistake and had rectified the matter.

A booklet called "The Equity Report (CEC Election Fraud)" on the alleged irregularities and internal politics in the DAP polls, written by a Father Augustus Chen, was also widely distributed in Penang.

DAP adviser Lim Kit Siang claimed "Father Augustus Chen" was a fictitious character conjured up by Umno to discredit the opposition party. He had also asked that "Father Augustus Chen" come forward to prove otherwise.

Lim claimed this dubious character was used by leaders from Umno and the RoS to invalidate the party's CEC elections last year.

In the booklet, the writer accused Lim and his son, Guan Eng, of having manipulated the vote tabulation during the election.

On July 30, RoS director-general Datuk Abdul Rahman Othman had ordered DAP to hold a CEC re-election and informed that he was not satisfied with the explanation given by the party on the issue of manipulation of votes. - August 15, 2013.

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