

**Zahid puzzles PAS, can't tell whether he's about power or position**  
**Malaysian Insider**  
**Aug 20 , 2013**

The Home Minister's demands to reintroduce a preventive detention law, when the Prime Minister has said such a law was not needed, puzzles PAS.

PAS information chief Datuk Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man (pic) said even the Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar was willing to work with existing laws to combat crime and revealed on Tuesday that police were using the Crime Prevention Act 1959 to detain suspects for up to 72 days to assist investigations.

"The statements by Najib and Khalid are slaps in the face for Home Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, who has been calling for the Emergency Ordinance to be reintroduced," Tuan Ibrahim said in a statement today.

He said Khalid has proven that Ahmad Zahid was mistaken in wanting an EO-like law after Datuk Seri Najib Razak made repealing it part of his transformation programme.

"It appears that there are already laws in place which allow for the detention of a criminal suspect for up to two and a half months, with the consent of the courts," he said.

"So the question now is, why is Ahmad Zahid campaigning so hard for the return of preventive laws?"

"Is it because as Home Minister, he will have the authority to decide who is detained under preventive law or because it is one of his tactics to defend his Umno vice-president position?" said Tuan Ibrahim.

Ahmad Zahid's rhetoric has weakened public trust in the home minister and his ministry, he added.

"PAS supports the call by former Chief Justice Tun Zaki Azmi for amendments to the Crime Prevention Act 1959 to give more powers to the police to fight serious crimes."

However, Tuan Ibrahim also sounded a note of caution, expressing the hope that the Act would not be abused and used on innocent parties or for political purposes.

Najib yesterday said the government would not introduce new laws that would restrict human rights and liberties in order to combat the recent spate of violent crimes.

He was adamant that he wouldn't reinstate laws to detain individuals without trial.

Meanwhile, yesterday in Sungai Nibong, Penang, after police shot dead five men believed to have committed 10 murders and two attempted murders in three states, Khalid said in a press conference that they had detained about 200 suspected criminals since Saturday under the Crime Prevention Act 1959 for various offences. – August 20, 2013.

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/zahid-puzzles-pas-cant-tell-whetherhes-about-power-or-position>