

Ahead of PAS polls, Husam declines Kelantan jobs
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The quiet war between conservatives and progressives in PAS ahead of party polls continues with former Kelantan state executive councillor Datuk Husam Musa (pic) now declining the state government's offer of posts in state firms.

He revealed that the state government had pulled other chairmanships from him in companies that have performed well while leaving alone chairmen in loss-making state firms.

"I was never consulted about taking up any posts," the Salor assemblyman told The Malaysian Insider.

The PAS vice-president was dropped from the state government exco line-up after Election 2013, and Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Ahmad Yakub has now extended an olive branch of chairmanships of Kelantan Golden Trade Sdn Bhd and Tunjong Development Corporation.

Ahmad told The Malaysian Insider last week that both posts would be offered to Husam as he had been responsible for the companies while in the state government.

The first-term menteri besar dismissed any fallout with Husam, saying it was not in the power of the state government or Kelantan PAS to decide whether the latter had a place in the state exco.

But Husam told The Malaysian Insider that he had been dropped as chairman of some of the companies he had set up for the state.

"If I was given a choice, I would be more interested in chairing Baldah Toyyibah, which was appointed to head the building of the Kota Baru-Kuala Krai highway and I feel responsible to see that the highway becomes a reality.

"Actually, I had already arranged all the funding when I was there before," he said.

Husam also revealed that before the state assembly was dissolved, Kelantan had approved that a steel mining area in Sungai Tuang, Gua Musang, worth RM2.5 billion, be used as collateral to fund the highway.

"I was made to understand that the mine, with an area of 3,000 hectares, was taken back and it was proposed to several other individuals. Besides that, I had set up a government mining company to develop the mine on a big scale with modern technology and processing, under Az Zahab.

"Thank God that just after three months, our first gold licence was approved and we mined our first haul of gold last week. Besides that, we received an approval to mine manganese. That mine itself is worth half a billion ringgit," he said.

Husam said Az Zahab was set up to fund the highway and a new stadium.

"I hope the state government will take care of these assets well."

He added that when he was chairman those companies were "making profits".

The PAS vice-president also said another state company, PMBK Sawit, had also recorded a profit of RM8 million until June this year.

"I hope the new chairman will look after what he is trusted with. I am surprised why several chairmen who have not been performing were not removed," he said.

He revealed that KPK and oil palm estate company Ladan Relai have recorded massive losses.

"I call on the state government to appoint an independent auditor to check on these companies," Husam said. – August 25, 2013.

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