

DAP assemblyman takes legal route to stop Taib becoming Sarawak governor

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A court action has been filed to stop outgoing Sarawak Chief Minister Tan Sri Taib Taib Mahmud from assuming the post of the governor of the state.

Padungan assemblyman Wong King Wei filed a writ of summons in the Kuching High Court today to restrain Taib from accepting the appointment of Yang di-Pertua Negeri of Sarawak, the Malaysiakini news portal reported.

Wong, who is also Sarawak DAP Youth chief, said the writ stated Taib would be violating Article 2(2) of the State constitution should Taib accept the post of head of state.

"Alternatively, in the event Taib accepts the appointment, a declaration is being sought that he be removed from the office," Wong said.

Wong said Taib should be restrained from becoming Yang di-Pertua Negeri because the state constitution stated an appointee was prohibited from being actively engaged in business and commercial enterprise.

He also sought a declaration that Taib has also violated Article 6(5) during his tenure as chief minister by actively engaging in commercial enterprises at all material times.

The reason is that Taib is a director in Mesti Bersatu Sdn Bhd since May 9, 2007.

"Taib is also a shareholder of Mesti Bersatu, holding 400,000 shares in the company," Wong said.

Taib (pic), who has been chief minister since March 26, 1981, will be given 14 days to respond to the suit from the date the writ is served on him.

In the meantime, Wong said an ex-parte application would be filed to also stop Taib's appointment by the Yang di Pertuan Agong.

"This injunction application will be filed as soon as possible," Wong said.

Bernama had reported that Taib is expected to have an audience with Tuanku Abdul Halim Shah Mu'adzam on Friday afternoon to receive his credentials as the seventh Sarawak Yang di-Pertua Negeri.

The Sarawak Chief Minister's Department Public Relations and Corporate Affairs Unit, in a statement yesterday said the new Yang di-Pertua Negeri would be given a rousing reception at the Kuching International Airport at 8pm on his return from Kuala Lumpur.

The new Yang di-Pertua Negeri will be sworn-in at the Sarawak State Assembly, Petra Jaya on Saturday.

Bernama also learned that Sarawak Minister in the Chief Minister's Office Tan Sri Adenan Satem will be sworn-in as the new Sarawak chief minister on Friday before outgoing Yang di-Pertua Negeri Tun Abang Muhammad Salahuddin at Astana Negeri at 9am.

It will be Tun Abang Muhammad Salahuddin's final official ceremony before Taib takes over as Sarawak's head of state

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