

Ahmad Said Confirms Retracting Resignation
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KEMAMAN, May 14 (Bernama) -- Former Terengganu Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Ahmad Said Wednesday confirmed that he has retracted his decision to quit Umno and become an independent assemblyman.

Ahmad, who is also the assemblyman for Kijal, said he had apologised to Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak during a meeting with the Prime Minister in Putrajaya at midday today over the matter and that both of them apologised to each other over any misunderstanding that took place.

"The tense relations broke out when I told the PM that a wedding reception for my daughter was scheduled for May 17 at my residence in Telok Kalong.

"However, PM said that was a personal matter... this concerned my daughter and my reputation so I took the decision to quit my posts in Umno and leave the party," he told a press conference here this afternoon.

Ajil assemblyman Ghazali Taib who joined him in resigning from Umno also has retracted his decision.

Ahmad said he and Ghazali were loyal and loved Umno.

"Ghazali and I have withdrawn our resignation letters as Umno members and assemblymen," he said.

He said he held no grudge over what happened.

Ahmad said he would be carrying out his duty as a state assemblyman in his constituency as usual.

Ahmad had resigned as Terengganu Menteri Besar on Monday (May 12) after meeting the Prime Minister in the morning.

The assemblyman for Seberang Takir, Datuk Ahmad Razif Abdul Rahman was appointed as the new menteri besar and took his oath before the Sultan of Terengganu, Sultan Mizan Zainal Abidin at Istana Syarqiyyah, Kuala Terengganu later the same day.

In the early hours of May 13, Ahmad, Ghazali and Bukit Besi assemblyman, Roslee Daud declared their resignation from Umno to become independent assemblymen.

The move by the trio caused the Barisan Nasional to have only 15 seats (including the

Speaker) in the 32-seat state assembly while PAS had 14 seats, PKR (1), and Independents (3).

Roslee, however, later the same day (May 13) retracted his decision to leave Umno. Earlier today, Ahmad, Razif and all the Terengganu BN assemblymen met the Prime Minister in Putrajaya over the developments following which the problem of the defections was amicably resolved with all the assemblymen pledging to give their full backing to the new leadership in the state.

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