

Let Pakatan decide Khalid's fate based on consensus, says Anwar
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By Jamilah Kamarudin

Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim's fate as Selangor menteri besar will only be decided after obtaining consensus from all three component parties in Pakatan Rakyat, opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said today.

The PKR de facto chief said the decision to maintain Khalid as menteri besar or replace him would have to be made after consulting all parties in the opposition coalition, before the matter was brought before the Sultan of Selangor.

"It is not the official statement. Ultimately, the decision to maintain or make changes must be made through discussions with Pakatan Rakyat and with the approval of the sultan.

"So the decision is not based on the rumours we are hearing," he told reporters after speaking on the Asian Renaissance in Puchong today. He said this in response to Selangor PAS and DAP leaders' call for the menteri besar to be replaced.

The parties have expressed fear that the state may fall to Barisan Nasional (BN) in the next general election should Khalid remain as menteri besar.

But Anwar said their statements were just personal views unrelated to Pakatan's official stance.

"They voiced out their opinions based on new developments.

"We will look at it, we will discuss, and we will reach our decision," he said.

Selangor PAS elections director Jaafar Sulaiman told The Malaysian Insider previously that 22 PAS leaders in the state had agreed during a party meeting that Khalid must be replaced.

Jaafar said many issues plaguing the state were a result of Khalid's weak leadership and his refusal to listen to his colleagues in Pakatan.

Shah Alam MP Khalid Samad from PAS said since the decision had been made, Khalid must be replaced by a leader whom all parties could accept.

"I don't see how a menteri besar can maintain his position if his own party rejects him," he had told The Malaysian Insider.

Puchong MP Gobind Singh Deo (DAP) had also criticised Khalid's administration, particularly over the planned construction of the unpopular Kinrara-Damansara (Kidex) highway.

But Khalid has brushed aside the calls for his removal, saying that such criticism was common in politics.

"I have to handle many sensitive issues. Hence, I am constantly seen as making solutions which are neither comfortable nor acceptable.

"However, all of the decisions which I have made are according to the existing rules and regulations.

"Unhappiness is bound to occur especially in cases involving sensitive issues. So, I am definitely not doing it for fun or personal gain," Khalid said earlier today. – June 21, 2014.

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