

Sultan turns down Wan Azizah's request to explain Selangor MB crisis

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The Sultan of Selangor had rejected Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail's request for an audience to explain the state's menteri besar crisis as he had already been briefed by Tan Sri Khalid Ibrahim on the matter, an aide to the sultan said today.

Mohamad Munir Bani, Sultan Sharafudin Idris Shah's private secretary, said the palace had received a letter signed by opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim last Sunday.

The letter was sent on behalf of PKR president Dr Wan Azizah, requesting for an audience with the sultan to explain the decision made by the party's leadership.

"The letter was presented to the sultan on August 11 and His Majesty instructed me to inform Anwar that he does not accept the request as Khalid had already met him on Khalid's position as menteri besar," Mohamad Munir said in a statement today.

"The Sultan of Selangor felt Khalid's expulsion from PKR is an internal party issue and does not affect his position as a member of the state assembly.

"His Royal Highness do not want to interfere in PKR's internal issues," he said.

Munir also explained it was the Sultan who solely gave him consent for Khalid to continue to helm the state, and not the Selangor Royal Advisory Council. .

He said yesterday's council meeting had been decided earlier and did not discuss Khalid's position.

"Khalid had an audience with the Sultan to inform His Highness that he had been sacked by PKR'S disciplinary board as well as other matters related to the position of the Menteri Besar before the council convened its meeting.

"The Sultan had informed the council his decision to retain Khalid as the Selangor menteri besar," he said.

Following a two-hour meeting by Selangor's Royal Advisory Council at the Istana Alam Shah yesterday, the sultan consented to having Khalid continue as MB.

The Port Klang assemblyman said he had informed the sultan that he still commanded the majority of the support of the state's assemblymen, despite his sacking from PKR on August 9.

PKR expelled Khalid for defying the party's orders to step down as MB and make way for Dr Wan Azizah to replace him.

His expulsion came weeks after the MB crisis threatened to split Pakatan between PAS, which supports Khalid, and PKR and DAP, which want him removed.

Today, six DAP and PKR excos said while they will continue their duties, they will not meet Khalid except during the weekly exco meetings.

However, PAS met with the under fire MB, with the Islamist party's exco Dr Ahmad Yunus Hairi saying it was a short discussion on running the state. – August 12, 2014.

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