

Selangor MB won't attend PKR disciplinary hearing, sends letter to party
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BY JENNIFER GOMEZ

Embattled Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Khalid Ibrahim (pic) will not attend the PKR disciplinary board meeting today but has replied to the show-cause letter asking him to explain his defiance of party directives.

His political secretary, Mustapha Mohd Talib, said today Khalid could not make the hearing today as he had other engagements at the time.

"He is attending to other engagements at the office. So he will not be coming," he told reporters after handing over the letter at the party headquarters in Petaling Jaya today.

The second-term menteri besar has been asked to vacate his post in favour of party president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail but has refused, saying he wants to finish his term.

PKR disciplinary board chairman Datuk Dr Tan Kee Kwong said although the show-cause letter stated that the Selangor MB had the option of attending a hearing today at 3pm or before noon tomorrow, reports in the media indicated that Khalid had said he would reply by 10am today.

"So that's why I'm here, once he replies, the disciplinary board will start to deliberate with one other member and our lawyer R.Sivarasa," Tan said.

The show-cause letter stated that Khalid was required to explain the issues related to his administration and his personal conduct.

They are: Selangor's water industry restructuring exercise; the 300% increase in business licence fee; the MB's salary hike; the proposal to build the Kinrara-Damansara Expressway (Kidex); and his out-of-court settlement of a RM70 million Bank Islam loan.

Pressure has been piling on Khalid since last month to resign as menteri besar.

His party's proposal for him to resign is being decided by PKR's allies in coalition, DAP and PAS.

Khalid yesterday said he would not provide detailed explanations concerning those issues in writing.

He also refused to comment on an earlier disciplinary committee letter asking him to explain why he decided to defy the party on its "Kajang move".

"I cannot comment on that now."

The show-cause letter, dated August 5, asked Khalid to explain why he refused to follow a directive reached on January 15 and July 21 for him to resign.

The August 5 letter said the directive was part of the "Kajang Move", where a by-election was triggered in the Kajang state assembly seat.

The by-election was to pave the way for de facto leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim to contest and become a state lawmaker, and subsequently the menteri besar.

After Anwar was disqualified, his place was taken by his wife and PKR president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, who won the seat. – August 7, 2014.

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