

Khalid 'extremely selfish' if he dissolves assembly, says Guan Eng
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Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim will be seen as an "extremely selfish" person if he dissolves the state legislative assembly when it is clear he has lost the majority support, said DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng.

The Penang chief minister said dissolving the state legislative assembly goes against the spirit and principles of democracy.

"It shows that he is extremely selfish and that he will turn his back on democracy, the state constitution and the people's mandate just to hold on to the post of menteri besar.

"It will show that the position (to Khalid) is more important than the people's right and the sovereignty of the law.

"This is a threat he is using just to keep the menteri besar position," said Lim.

Lim (pic) was responding to Khalid's statement yesterday about the possibility of snap polls to end the MB crisis.

But Khalid said any decision on the matter, including his resignation and the appointment of a new MB, could only be made after consulting the state ruler.

Lim said the Selangor Constitution has clear stated that whoever with support of the majority of state assemblymen shall be appointed the MB.

"This was proven in the Perak constitutional crisis in 2009. A new menteri besar was appointed without the state assembly being dissolved. In that incident, only three reps defected.

"In Selangor, Pakatan Rakyat won with a bigger majority (than in Perak). PR won 44 out of 56 seats... there are already 30 PR reps supporting (PKR president Datuk Seri Dr) Wan Azizah (Wan Ismail) as the new menteri besar," he said.

Lim was referring to how PR lost the Perak government in 2009, after three PKR and DAP assemblymen declared themselves as Barisan Nasional-friendly. In the 2008 general election, PR won 31 out of 59 seats.

The Perak Sultan had then rejected a request by then MB Datuk Seri Mohammad Nizar Jamaluddin to dissolve the state assembly and allow fresh elections.

BN's Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir was subsequently appointed the new MB.

Lim said Dr Wan Azizah had already proven that she has the backing of the majority, after 30 assemblymen declared their support for her.

"Until today, Khalid has not proven how many reps he has behind him. Maybe only the 12 from Umno.

"We still don't know about the rest but please don't tell me we can't do the math?" Lim said.

PAS has yet to decide on whether to accept Dr Wan Azizah as the new MB.

The party's central leadership will meet tomorrow and is expected to offer alternative candidates for the post.

On his expectations on the much-awaited PAS meeting, Lim said: "We have to wait for tomorrow".

"The post belongs to PKR. About why PKR no longer wants Khalid to hold the post or whether he is right for the job or not, it is best to leave it to PKR to explain.

"For DAP, we respect the decision. If the PKR candidate for the job changes, then as a loyal PR colleague, we respect PKR's call... that is why we support Dr Wan Azizah as the new menteri besar," Lim said.

Last night, Khalid said the Sultan of Selangor was satisfied that he had the confidence of the majority of Selangor assemblymen, and ordered him to decide on the post only after August 27 when the ruler returns from overseas. – August 16, 2014.

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