

**Think of Pakatan when deciding Khalid's fate tomorrow, PKR tells PAS**  
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PAS must reflect its togetherness with Pakatan Rakyat (PR) when it decides the fate of embattled Tan Sri Khalid Ibrahim as menteri besar (MB) tomorrow, the PKR secretary-general said today.

Datuk Saifuddin Nasution Ismail (pic) said the different opinions and misunderstanding over the Selangor leadership crisis have eroded the positive aspects of the coalition, and widened the rift between members of the coalition.

"The MB issue should have been resolved long ago based on consensus and respect within Pakatan. It was supposed to be a unanimous decision when the meeting was held in July 23. Sadly it was not to be," he said in a statement today.

The Selangor menteri besar impasse that is threatening to split Pakatan occurred after top PAS leaders openly opposed the decision to replace Khalid, who was sacked from PKR last Saturday after he refused to make way for PKR president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail for the MB post.

PAS is expected to hold a central committee meeting tomorrow to discuss the matter, including the possibility of naming an alternative candidate for the top post in the state.

Saifuddin also reminded the need for Pakatan to stay true to the principles because the coalition, since 2008, had never broken any of them when discussing candidates for menteri besar of a state.

"There was never an issue of another party submitting a different name for consideration as it may be deemed as unethical and viewed as trying to create antagonism within the coalition."

Saifuddin said the decision making process within the coalition should be uphold

and defended.

"It is unfair that the issue is being turned into a clash between PKR and PAS, whereas DAP and all its 15 assemblymen had agreed to nominating Wan Azizah.

"I really hope that PAS will take into consideration that the majority of the state assembly had made its decision."

On appointing the menteri besar, Saifuddin said he would leave it to the Selangor sultan to decide based on the state constitution and related laws.

"His Highness is more learned on the matter, and it has been understood that the Ruler is open on the matter and will base his decision on the principles of law," he said, adding that PKR, DAP and PAS should first agree on a candidate before submitting it to the sultan for consideration.

"Until now, PAS has yet to give a valid reason for their objection against nominating Wan Azizah," he said.

Saifuddin also clarified several inaccuracies being spread online after de facto PKR leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim met PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang on August 11.

One of them, he said, was that PAS's decision to reject Wan Azizah was due to the sultan's command and that Anwar's visit was to obtain a support letter from PAS.

"I was with Anwar, Hadi and PAS secretary-general Datuk Mustapha Ali, and know that the reason for the meeting was not about getting any support but more about bringing back the spirit of consensus within Pakatan."

This, he said, was done after Hadi's meeting with DAP on August 9 to explain their position on Wan Azizah.

"Anwar decided to pay Hadi a visit after learning about this and wanted to mend the friction between the two parties." he said, adding that the news claiming that Anwar was trying to win Hadi's support was false.

Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng today when asked on his expectations on the eagerly awaited PAS meeting, said: "We have to wait for tomorrow".

"The post belongs to PKR. 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." – August 16, 2014.

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