

Khalid calls off monthly meet with civil servants
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Embattled Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim cancelled his monthly meeting with civil servants this morning following Pakatan Rakyat's unanimous decision yesterday to replace him with PKR president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

The Selangor state government monthly assembly, which was supposed to be held at the Dewan Jubli Perak in Shah Alam at 8am this morning, was called off at the last minute by the MB's office which made the announcement at 7.40am.

"The monthly assembly programme which was scheduled for Monday, August 18, organised by the Selangor Foundation has been cancelled over unavoidable reasons.

"We apologise for the inconveniences," the press secretariat said in an email this morning.

The PAS central committee had agreed yesterday to remove Khalid as MB and said it wanted to remain in the Pakatan Rakyat coalition. It also proposed an alternative candidate, Mohamed Azmin Ali, besides Dr Wan Azizah.

Later in the evening, the opposition coalition decided that only Dr Wan Azizah's name was to be sent to the Palace after Azmin, who is also PKR deputy president, rejected the proposal from PAS to nominate him as MB.

It is also understood that Khalid has not entered his office today, raising questions as to his whereabouts given that he has no official programmes scheduled for today.

Yesterday, Khalid said he had accepted PAS's decision to remove him, adding that he would seek an audience with the sultan of Selangor, Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah, for advice.

"Until the sultan makes his final decision, I will continue to administer Selangor with the four PAS exco members to ensure the people are not affected by this crisis," Khalid said in a statement yesterday.

Khalid has two choices to present to the sultan: either call for an emergency State Legislative Assembly sitting to allow the assemblymen to pass a motion of no confidence, or to request the sultan's consent to dissolve the assembly.

With Sultan Sharafuddin abroad and expected to return to Malaysia on August 27, Khalid has about 10 more days to carry out his remaining duties.

Meanwhile, it was reported that PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang and the party's spiritual advisor, Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat, would meet in Kelantan today to discuss PAS's decision yesterday.

The central committee's decision yesterday went against the two leaders' original stance that Khalid should remain MB. – August 18, 2014.

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