

PKR did not want to field Khalid in GE13, says PAS lawmaker
Malaysian Insider
Aug 18, 2014
BY LEE SHI-IAN

Despite his track record administering Selangor, PKR did not want to field Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim in the last general election, a PAS lawmaker told a forum last night.

Shah Alam MP Khalid Samad said PAS had not agreed as it feared the impact the decision would have on the polls outcome.

"Prior to the 13th general election, PKR had informed PAS that it did not want Khalid to contest any state assembly seats," Khalid Samad told the forum last night.

"However, PAS leaders disagreed with PKR because without Khalid, the people of Selangor would start speculating over who would become the state menteri besar.

"It might even cause Pakatan Rakyat to lose Malaysia's wealthiest state because the voters would be worried that a PAS or DAP candidate might lead Selangor."

Khalid Samad said based on this line of reasoning, PKR de facto leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim agreed to field Abdul Khalid as a state assembly candidate.

"Anwar even showed his positive side by purposely choosing a winnable seat for Abdul Khalid, the Port Klang seat," Khalid Samad said.

The forum entitled "Selangor Crisis: Why has PAS been alienated?" was held at the Selangor-Kuala Lumpur Chinese Assembly Hall.

After the 13th general election, though, Abdul Khalid apparently changed as he went back on his word on an agreement to establish a steering committee to discuss policy matters.

"Before the general elections, Abdul Khalid had agreed to form a steering committee comprised of three representatives each from PAS, PKR and DAP.

"The purpose of the steering committee was to discuss policy issues in Selangor at least once a week or once every two weeks," Khalid Samad said.

After being sworn in as menteri besar for a second term, Abdul Khalid complained that he was the only state leader lumbered with a steering committee, adding that the Pakatan Rakyat-led governments in Penang and Kelantan had no steering committees.

"Despite his protestations, PAS decided to give Abdul Khalid a year to prove himself," Khalid Samad told a packed auditorium last night.

"Abdul Khalid was very skilled in corporate politics, he gave PAS 'special' treatment after PKR began pushing for his resignation."

Abdul Khalid began reporting to PAS once every two weeks on what was happening in Selangor, giving the Islamist party the impression that he was the victim.

"PAS exco members were also treated better than their DAP or PKR counterparts, so PAS was under the impression that PKR had a problem with Abdul Khalid.

"But this is not a case of follow-the-leader," Khalid said, adding that one had to separate the truth from the lies.

He said the "Kajang Move" engineered by Anwar had not been about the individual or PKR president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

"The purpose of the 'Kajang Move' was not to replace Abdul Khalid but to get him to change," Khalid said.

"We wanted him to change his behaviour, his management style, to become a team player."

PAS research chief Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said although he and Khalid were former colleagues, the issue was not about the Selangor menteri besar's performance.

"One cannot lead an organisation in such a high-handed manner without being accountable and responsible to the board of directors and shareholders.

"The issue is not about the RM3.2 billion surplus which Abdul Khalid has helped build up in Selangor, it is about whether he can carry the vision and mission of PR in Selangor.

"We need a menteri besar who is a team player, someone who must also be willing to listen to the opinions of the Pakatan Rakyat Leadership Council."

Other speakers at last night's forum included PAS Youth chief Suhaizan Kayat and constitutional expert Professor Dr Abdul Aziz Bari. – August 18, 2014.

Hakcipta © 2013 The Malaysian Insider

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/pkr-did-not-want-to-fire-khalid-in-the-last-general-election-says-pas-lawm>