

## **In Terengganu deadlock, PKR stands ready for fresh polls**

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**BY JAMILAH KAMARUDIN**

PKR is ready for state-wide elections if the Terengganu legislative assembly is to be dissolved, deputy president Azmin Ali (pic) said today, despite the party's unconvincing performance in the state at last year's general election.

"Terengganu's supreme council will consider the next step when the three seats are under independent representatives," he told The Malaysian Insider today.

He added that there had been no discussions within Pakatan Rakyat, but did not discount the possibility that an emergency presidential council meeting will be called soon.

Commenting on the Terengganu crisis, Azmin said that Umno should respect the people's mandate and call for fresh elections for the state.

"This is the best route after Umno has obviously failed to solve their internal party crisis, and we also do not want a repeat of the Perak constitutional crisis," he said.

Social media was buzzing today with rumours that the Terengganu state assembly had been dissolved and that fresh elections will be called in 60 days after Datuk Seri Ahmad Said was replaced by Datuk Ahmad Razif Abdul Rahman as Terengganu Menteri Besar yesterday.

Ahmad Said, who is also Kijal assemblyman, and Aijil assemblyman Ghazali Taib left Umno just hours after the appointment of the new menteri besar. Bukit Besi assemblyman Roslee Daud followed suit by announcing this

morning that he too would quit the party and become an independent representative.

The latest development leaves Barisan Nasional with 14 seats, one fewer than Pakatan Rakyat's 15 in the 32-seat assembly.

In the 13th general election, BN won 17 state seats against Pakatan Rakyat's 15, and also managed to win half of the eight Parliamentary seats in the state.

However, PKR did poorly, managing to win only one state seat with PAS winning the other 14.

Meanwhile, Speaker Mohd Zubir Embong denied that the Terengganu Sultan had dissolved the state assembly and instead asserted that dissolving it involved certain procedures – including the menteri besar having to seek an audience with Sultan Mizan Zainal Abidin. – May 13, 2014.

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