

Cutting off Hadi same as ending ties with PAS, says veep
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By Hasbullah Awang Chik

DAP's decision to sever ties with PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang is as good as cutting all ties with the Islamist party, one of its vice-presidents said today, soon after its Pakatan Rakyat (PR) partner announced that it would remain in the coalition but no longer deal with the PAS leader.

Datuk Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man said DAP's decision was an odd one as it could not expect to stop working with Hadi only and not the rest of the party.

"It is a odd decision as the president represents the party. There is no such thing as cutting off ties with the president only as it also means cutting off ties with PAS.

"We are in full support of the president's leadership and anything that happens to him, happens to PAS," Tuan Ibrahim told The Malaysian Insider.

Tuan Ibrahim said DAP should be one to leave PR, not PAS.

"After all, they have done it before. DAP has withdrawn itself from an opposition pact before. If they don't feel comfortable, they should make the same decision to leave," he said, noting that DAP once left an alliance with PAS and PKR over the Islamic state agenda.

"For PAS, no party can ask another in PR to leave, other than that party to withdraw itself."

The DAP central executive committee last night affirmed its commitment to PR but announced it was cutting off ties with Hadi.

DAP said it had lost faith and trust in the PAS president over his acts of "betrayal" to the opposition pact's common policy framework and consensus-based decisions.

DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng said his party regretted the "dishonesty and dishonour" shown by Hadi in his actions over the Kajang Move last year, in Kelantan PAS's move to implement hudud in the state, and in his unilateral tabling of a Private Member's Bill in Parliament to allow hudud.

DAP said such actions were akin to working with Umno to destabilise PR.

"DAP has lost faith and trust in Hadi as a PR leader and we have decided to break ties and cease cooperation with him," Lim had said in a statement today.

However, DAP's move also puts PR in limbo, as PAS is still represented by Hadi in the pact's leadership council.

"We will meet with the PKR leadership to discuss the fate of PR in the future," Lim said. – March 24, 2015.

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