

Make sure Kedah Umno remains intact, Hishammuddin tells Mukhriz
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By Melati A. Jalil

An Umno vice-president today reminded Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir to ensure that Umno Kedah remains intact, amid the ongoing crisis between veteran Umno leader Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamed and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein said today that as menteri besar, Mukhriz has the responsibility to ensure that the party did not split up.

It was reported yesterday that as Umno leaders rushed to defend their party president Najib, Mukhriz had come under fire for not stating his support for the prime minister.

This prompted Bukit Lada assemblyman Datuk Ahmad Lebai Sudin to ask Mukhriz to step down if he did not support Najib.

"He is the menteri besar of Kedah... his responsibility is to take care of the state.

"That is for him to handle, it is his responsibility to make sure that Kedah (Umno) does not split," Hishammuddin said at a press conference after attending the second session of the Armed Forces Order of Military Service ceremony at Wisma Perwira ATM, Jalan Padang Tembak, today.

"If Kedah splits, it is a reflection on his leadership. We all have our responsibility, no one can run from (it)."

He said all leaders have their own responsibilities that needed to be carried out as best as they could.

"If they fail to carry them out, they fail as a leader, (and this is) only at the state level."

Meanwhile, Hishammuddin also denied claims that the party is splitting following Dr Mahathir's criticism.

"No, I don't think so, far from it. If the party splits, who is going to make sure the country is not splitting?"

"And you see what is happening in the middle east, from Syria to Iraq, Yemen, Libya. Are you telling me that our situation is worse than that?"

"Basically, the party leadership is still able to make sure that at the end of the day, good sense prevails."

"I personally feel that we are able to manage whatever perception that people have, (and) I think that is his own personal view, I don't have to agree with that view." he said. – April 13, 2015.

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