

Make stand on Najib, GST, PKR tells BN's Permatang Pauh candidate
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PKR will mount pressure on Barisan Nasional (BN) candidate Suhaimi Sabudin to make his stand in the Permatang Pauh by-election campaign on the goods and services tax (GST) and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak's leadership, a party leader said today.

PKR secretary-general Rafizi Ramli said that Suhaimi should clearly state his stand on the consumption tax and support for Najib, instead of hiding behind senior Umno leaders such as Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Home Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Ahmad Maslan who had come to the parliamentary seat to campaign for the by-election slotted on May 7.

"Up to date, not a single Umno leader has dared to debate on GST at the Permatang Pauh by-election campaign.

"Even Ahmad Maslan, who is known as the GST ambassador, declined the invitation to debate me on the tax on May 2 in Seberang Jaya.

"Today, Muhyiddin could not explain why the pictures of Najib are missing from the party's by-election posters when previously, the prime minister is usually more prominently featured than the chosen candidate itself," Rafizi said today.

The Pandan MP said that two issues dominating the parliamentary by-election now were implementation of GST and dissatisfaction towards Najib's leadership of the ruling party, Umno, and the country.

Rafizi added that nearly 75% of voters in Permatang Pauh were against GST.

"This means three out of every four voters reject GST. This includes voters from among Umno and BN themselves."

He also said that negative sentiments towards Najib were common, especially among Umno voters in Permatang Pauh, as such, Suhaimi could no longer remain silent on both matters.

"Since GST issue is most important, he (Suhaimi) should express whether he supports it or not.

"On behalf of PKR, I am inviting Suhaimi to attend the 'GST: Between reality and perception' forum, in Permatang Pauh, in place of the deputy finance minister, who dared not show up," said Rafizi, adding that the forum scheduled on May 2 at the Seberang Jaya Expo site, would be a chance for Suhaimi to clearly state his stand on the consumption tax. – April 28, 2015.

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