

## **Two Political Dramas Spice Up Malaysian Political Scene**

**Bernama**

**June 16, 2015**

**By Jamaluddin Muhammad**

KUALA LUMPUR, June 16 (Bernama) -- The DAP dropped a bombshell today when declaring the opposition pact Pakatan Rakyat no longer exist while MIC announced the suspension of its deputy president and 14 others.

DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng claimed the decision of the PAS muktamar to sever ties with the DAP had "killed" the pact.

Pakatan Rakyat, a loose pact, was formed on April 1, 2008 by the DAP, PAS and PKR after the 12th general election.

Early this month, the 61st PAS general assembly passed a resolution calling for the severing of ties with the DAP after the DAP had officially cut ties with PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang.

The DAP cut ties with Abdul Hadi after claiming that the latter failed to discuss with the other Pakatan Rakyat members on PAS' plan to proceed with the implementation of the 'hudud' law in Kelantan.

PAS, on the other hand, had claimed that DAP leaders had attacked Abdul Hadi's leadership, prompting the party to sever ties with the DAP.

The DAP secretary-general also cited several major incidents over the past years, including the Selangor menteri besar crisis, and decisions agreed upon at the Pakatan Rakyat Leadership Council that were violated by Abdul Hadi as having resulted in the near-paralysis of the pact.

The DAP, he said, would continue to work with PKR and others with the aim to wrest Putrajaya in the next general election.

This development raised immediate concern on the status of the Selangor government with its 56-seat Selangor state legislative assembly comprising DAP and PAS which have 15 seats each and PKR (13), Barisan Nasional (12) and independent (one).

The demise of Pakatan Rakyat is unlikely to affect the position of Mohamed Azmin Ali as Selangor Menteri Besar.

"He may only be removed by a motion of no confidence in the state assembly, and this is not probable," said Prof Dr Nik Ahmad Kamal Nik Mahmood, head of the Governance, Law and Public Administration Cluster, National Council of Professors.

Contrary to the Guan Eng's announcement, PAS Youth head Nik Mohamad Nik Abdul Aziz

said the pact still existed with the cooperation between PAS and PKR minus the DAP.

"PR is not over although one disappears. It's the DAP that is over...we still have the PR, there are more than two parties, thus the pact still exists, it depends on the relationship between PAS and PKR," he said.

PAS and PKR top guns have yet to comment on this latest development.

UMNO information chief, Datuk Ahmad Maslan in his tweet said the development would change the country's political landscape as it moves towards the 14th general election.

In another development, MIC president Datuk Seri G. Palanivel today suspended his deputy Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam and 14 others for a year with immediate effect for defying his orders not to hold the party's Interim Central Working Committee (CWC) meeting.

The other 14 are MIC vice-president Datuk M. Saravanan, MIC Wanita chief Mohana Muniandy and 12 CWC members Datuk Seri S.K. Devamany, N. Rawisandran, Datuk R. Ganesan, Datuk M. Davendran, Datuk K.R.A. Naidu, Datuk V.M. Panjamothy, P. Manivasagam, S. Ananthan, M. Mathuraiveran, Datuk M. Asojan, P. Shanmugan and K.R. Parthiban.

Few hours later, Dr Subramaniam had at 1pm today, chaired the Interim CWC 2009-2013 meeting at the MIC headquarters although their party membership had been suspended.

The meeting was also attended by Saravanan and 16 CWC members, including those who had been suspended.

The Interim CWC meeting was held following the High Court's decision yesterday to reject two judicial review applications by Palanivel and four others to annul the directive of the Registrar of Societies for the MIC to hold re-elections.

Subramaniam, on the other hand, claimed that Palanivel has no power to suspend him and 14 others.

These two dramas are likely to continue in the next few days.

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