

DAP Does Not Need Mediator To Resolve Issues With PAS - Guan Eng
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KUALA LUMPUR, June 8 (Bernama) -- The DAP does not need any mediator to resolve its conflict with PAS, said DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng.

Lim, who is Penang chief minister and MP for Bagan, said the DAP had the most number of MPs among the three parties making up the Pakatan Rakyat pact and could face any problem through direct talks with its partners.

"Issues or problems with PAS does not need any mediator (to find a solution). Any problem should be discussed directly (among members) and not through mediators," he told a press conference at the lobby of Parliament House today.

He was asked to comment on PKR's reported willingness to be the mediator in the conflict between DAP and PAS.

This follows a decision approved without debate at the 61st PAS general assembly on Wednesday to sever ties with the DAP because of differences on the 'hudud' issue.

In a statement issued yesterday, PKR stated that it would discuss with both parties for a solution to the conflict.

Guan Eng said PAS should tell its leaders to resign from posts in Penang if they wanted to break off ties with the DAP.

"The state government is under the DAP leadership, so where is the logic if PAS leaders continue to serve under DAP (if ties are severed)?"

"I have no right to tell them to resign from their posts because it is PAS that wants to cut off ties, so PAS should take the responsibility," he said.

In response, former PAS Information chief Datuk Mahfuz Omar said that if the PAS assembly kept to its decision to sever ties with DAP, it could still be friendly to Pakatan Rakyat.

He said PAS could be a supporter of Penang and Selangor without upsetting the existing governments although it was no longer a part of the coalition.

Asked if PAS would reconsider its resolution if the DAP relented in the near future, he said this would only lead to a negative perception among other Muslims.

"The decision to make a U-turn would make it seem that PAS does not want to relinquish its positions," he said.

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