

**Umno leader plotting to overthrow government wants to be PM, says Zahid**  
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**By Anisah Shukry**

The Umno leader who was behind the plot to topple the government intended to become the prime minister of a new "unity government", Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said today.

The Umno vice-president said the plotters also planned to install two deputy prime ministers – one from PKR and another from DAP.

"They intended to get 128 MPs on their side. They called it a unity government. Their plan was that the prime minister will be the figure who was once a part of Umno's main leadership.

"There would be two deputy prime ministers, a DAP leader and a PKR leader," Zahid said when officiating the Sri Gading Umno annual general meeting in Segamat this afternoon.

He said they planned to table a motion of no-confidence in the Dewan Rakyat on October 19, but were foiled when he revealed the plot.

They then moved to Plan B, which was to present a statutory declaration with enough signatures to the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong, said Zahid, who first revealed this on August 15.

"But we foiled that plan as well, because they didn't have enough MPs," said Zahid.

Zahid added that the man who wanted to become prime minister was to meet Datuk Seri Najib Razak at his residence last Sunday, but cancelled it because of the heavy presence of media.

Zahid said he knew this as he was in the meeting that decided the man should meet the prime minister.

"But when I announced this in Jempol, the reporters wrote about it.

"So he didn't come because he didn't want his photo taken by the reporters and photographers. But now the opposition are saying it's all sandiwara (show)," said Zahid.

He insisted this wasn't the case, as the information came from intelligence and had been verified and filtered before it reached him.

He said the authorities gave him the details so that he could stop the plan.

Zahid added that if the plotters had succeeded installing a new unity government, it would be similar to the short-lived Pakatan Rakyat-led government of Perak.

He said that although PAS's Datuk Seri Mohammad Nizar Jamaluddin was the menteri besar, the executive council and assembly were mostly made up of DAP leaders.

"The same would have happened if the unity government was created. They planned to have 88 opposition MPs and a maximum of 40 Barisan Nasional (BN) MPs.

"Would this have been a BN government? Would it have been an Umno government? Umno would only have a few extra seats."

Zahid assured that no Umno or BN MP had signed a statutory declaration in support of the unity government, as he had been able to foil the plot in its early stages.

He also conceded that it was not against the Federal Constitution to remove a government through a no-confidence vote, but said this was not something Umno would allow to happen.

Zahid revealed the plot to topple the government on August 15 and vowed that he would not allow it to happen.

He said he had learned that an Umno man was leading the plot with the support of opposition lawmakers, and that they were seeking the signatures of both BN and opposition lawmakers for a statutory declaration to overthrow the government. – August 22, 2015.

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