

Rebel BN MPs can bring down Najib Gov't
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If Budget 2016 is defeated in Parliament, it will be equivalent to a no confidence motion against Najib Abdul Razak as Prime Minister.

KUALA LUMPUR: A former Information Minister noted in his latest blog posting that Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak appears to be going all out to prevent his Budget 2016 being defeated through rebel Barisan Nasional (BN) MPs teaming up with Opposition MPs. "If Budget 2016 is defeated, it's equivalent to a no confidence motion against Najib as Prime Minister."

"Najib will fall if the BN is unable to deal with the Opposition's ability to ensure that Budget 2016 fails in Parliament. The failure to halt the Opposition move will be equivalent to a no confidence motion against Najib as Prime Minister."

Zainuddin Maidin, also a former Editor-in-Chief of Umno mouthpiece Utusan Malaysia, was pointing out that not too much should be made of Speaker Pandikar Amin Mulia saying that the no confidence motion which has been filed, but tucked under 24 government business as number 25 on a list of 28, may not see the light of day this parliamentary session.

"Don't fault me if the no confidence motion cannot be debated this parliamentary session," Zainuddin quoted Pandikar as saying. "The no confidence motion can probably be only considered the next time."

Zainuddin added that he agrees with political analyst Wong Chin Huat saying in Malaysiakini that the decision by PAS to support the no confidence motion, as announced by Gombak MP and Selangor Menteri Besar Azmin Ali on Tuesday evening, "cannot be taken lightly".

He also referred to reporting on Tuesday night that "PAS has agreed to support a vote of no confidence against Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak according PKR Deputy President Azmin Ali".

Zainuddin further quoted Wong as saying that "the Opposition and BN rebels alike have been urged to down the government's budget which will be tabled by Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak this Friday."

BN has probably factored in the possibility that PAS will vote for the no confidence motion and was probably trying to close all avenues which can be used by the Opposition, in alliance with rebel ruling coalition MPs, to bring down the Najib Government, said Zainuddin.

He reckons that BN, in that case, would have to control its MPs who are likely to support the Opposition move to oust Najib as Prime Minister. "If the tie up of Opposition and rebel BN MPs succeeds, it will create a new political scenario in the country, one where there's political co-operation across the political divide."

BN cannot rule out the role of Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah although he has denied being part of the group that came up with the no confidence motion, said Zainuddin, “and although the Opposition does not seem to be on accord”.

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