

Extend Zeti's tenure to deal with ringgit slump, says Pakatan Harapan Malaysian Insider

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By Ram Anand

Bank Negara governor Tan Sri Zeti Akhtar Aziz's tenure should be extended two more years to deal with the falling value of the ringgit, Pakatan Harapan said today in its alternative budget.

The new coalition said Zeti's way of handling the 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) crisis demonstrated her "professionalism" and "impartiality".

"We believe a steady hand would be an asset to navigate us through the looming crisis," the budget document said.

The ringgit is Asia's worst performing currency this year and is performing at its worst since the Asian economic crisis in 1998.

PKR secretary general Rafizi Ramli said that even though several opposition lawmakers have had their disagreements with Zeti, she had done a "remarkable job" given the constraints in the 1MDB issue.

"If she is replaced, it may erode whatever independence that is left in our institutions," he said.

PKR's Kelana Jaya MP Wong Chen, meanwhile, said that it needs to be "acknowledged" that Zeti is respected worldwide.

"There is some independence left in her and we would like to see that maintained," he said. – October 21, 2015.

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