

This is a usual challenge, says Mukhriz after move to oust him
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By Looi Sue-Chern

Despite facing a revolt from his party members, Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir says the "challenge" he is facing now is "usual".

"Ini cabaran biasa-biasa saja (this challenge is just a usual one)," he said last night.

Mukhriz spoke in a clear voice to address the hundreds of people who had gathered for hours outside Bangunan Tunku Umno Kedah in Alor Star as a show of support following calls by several state Umno division leaders for his removal as menteri besar.

"Thank you for supporting me. Some say I don't have support but tonight had shown differently.

"As long as the people want me, I will continue to serve," he said, after emerging from a two-hour meeting.

Mukhriz, who is the youngest son of former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, also urged his supporters to be patient.

"As long as we are sincere in our struggles, Allah will show us the way. Surely there is wisdom in what is happening," he said to loud cheers.

Among those on the sidelines of the gathering was PAS Pokok Sena MP Datuk Mahfuz Omar who said he was there because he did not agree with what Kedah Umno had done.

"With the investiture ceremony continuing tomorrow (Thursday) in conjunction with the Sultan of Kedah's birthday," he said Kedah Umno should not have called a press conference to oust Mukhriz, who had the consent of the sultan as menteri besar.

"I think it is disrespectful. 'Potong stim' (buzzkill)," he said.

Fourteen of the 15 Umno division chiefs in Kedah wanted Mukhriz replaced, saying the first-term MB had failed to strategise to keep the government in the next election due by 2018.

They said they had lost confidence in Mukhriz and wanted him replaced. – January 20, 2016.

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/this-is-a-usual-challenge-says-mukhriz-after-move-to-oust-him>