

Sariffuddin to Kit Siang: Blame DAP members for RoS complaint
Free Malaysia Today
July 3, 2017

The PM's press secretary calls Lim Kit Siang the architect of DAP's misfortunes, saying that once given power 'a dictator cannot help but show his true colours'.

PETALING JAYA: Prime Minister Najib Razak's press secretary has told the DAP leadership to blame its own members for the "dire predicament" the party is in with the Registrar of Societies (RoS) instead of targeting others.

Tengku Sariffuddin Tengku Ahmad said DAP members had lodged complaints to the RoS regarding serious irregularities and unfair treatment in the party elections.

He called on DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang to ask the members to retract their complaints, saying that if they had not been badly mistreated, they would surely withdraw what they had filed with the RoS.

"DAP members should remember that the RoS did not recognise the validity of the party's central executive committee (CEC) only because of the complaints lodged by DAP members against DAP leaders – for conducting unfair and undemocratic party elections," he said in a statement today.

Because of this, the future of DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng, who is Kit Siang's son, is in doubt, he said.

Referring to Guan Eng, who is Penang chief minister, as "Penang Official No 1", Tengku Sariffuddin added: "Because, on top of the corruption charges he is facing, the CEC elections which elevated him to DAP secretary-general are not valid. And DAP's use of the rocket logo is also in doubt."

Tengku Sariffuddin also described Kit Siang as "DAP's half-century long dictator" and as the opposition's real leader.

He said Kit Siang was doing what dictators do in blaming others, creating hate and taking no responsibility for his misdeeds.

"But this will not help solve the dire predicament DAP now faces," he said.

Tengku Sariffuddin claimed that that Kit Siang had indirectly endorsed the "unfair" party election in 2012 and re-election in 2013.

“It was he who therefore allowed the victimisation of the 753 delegates who were not allowed to take part in the election – a serious violation of their democratic rights.

“It was he who allowed the mistreatment of many of the DAP’s 865 branches,” Tengku Sariffuddin added.

“So why is he now blaming Umno and the RoS for attempts to manipulate DAP’s elections that favoured his family?” he said, describing the matter as a serious predicament for the party.

“But it is their half-century long dictator that is the architect of DAP’s misfortunes.

“He claims to believe in democracy but once given power, a dictator cannot help but show his true colours.

“This is the future the people would face if the DAP-led opposition assumes power over Malaysia.”

Meanwhile, Home Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said in Kuching today that he did not see any effort to deregister DAP “or otherwise”.

Zahid, who is deputy prime minister and Umno deputy president, was quoted by The Star as saying that he had discussed the matter with the RoS director-general and had not received a final decision on DAP’s appeal.

“I will meet RoS again next week and I hope they can provide a written report by then.”

DAP’s legal bureau chairman Gobind Singh Deo had yesterday said the registration issue had been cleared in court in 2014.

He said the RoS had then recognised that the CEC, as elected on Sept 29, 2013, may carry out all its powers, functions and duties in accordance with the party constitution.

On April 17, 2013, just three weeks before the 13th general election (GE13) on May 5, the RoS had sent a letter to DAP stating that the party’s new CEC was not recognised due to a dispute surrounding the party elections.

The RoS however issued another letter on April 19 informing that the party would be allowed to use its rocket symbol in the election.

On Jan 22, 2014, Guan Eng filed a judicial review application on behalf of the party, saying that the RoS had no power under the Societies Act 1966 to refuse the recognition of the CEC which was re-elected on Sept 29, 2013.

DAP decided to drop the application on Sept 23, 2014, following the RoS’ recognition of the re-elected CEC and its stand that statements on the matter were merely advice and not legally binding.

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Source: <http://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2017/07/03/sariffuddin-to-kit-siang-blame-dap-members-for-ros-complaint/>