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Zahid should not disrupt vaccines' rollout with allegations

February 1, 2021 @ 3:07pm



Stop making noises but round up as many volunteers as possible to help in the immunisation process. - NST/file pic.

LETTER: Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi wasted no time to accuse the government, through the Health Ministry, of giving an approval to a pole maker company of purchasing and distributing Covid-19 vaccines from China in this country.

His question for the government – how could a company producing poles for streetlights is awarded such an approval?

The vaccines, Zahid said, provided hopes for the people, but such an approval given to the pole-making company only raised question marks. He did not seem to be convinced of a denial on such matter as issued earlier by Health Minister, under the helm of also Umno member, Datuk

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Seri Dr Adham Baba.

This Batu Pahat boy who started his career as a medical practitioner in the private sector in 1990, is also Member of Parliament for Tenggara. Clearly, Zahid doesn't believe in his own party member, what more the government!

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Zahid's motive of disregarding Adham's denial is nothing but a show of vengeance for the government. To him, there is nothing just right about the government-of-the-day under prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

He will continue to raise eyebrows, with his litany of accusations against Muhyiddin and the government, just like what is being done by his political company, including opposition leader and PKR president, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, and former Umno president and prime minister, Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

They had ganged up in their attempts to remove Muhyiddin and replace Anwar as prime minister last year, but failed. Zahid whose several party members make up part of Muhyiddin's Cabinet line-up, has been up to his political tricks and charades to weaken Muhyiddin and the Perikatan Nasional but so far, his has been a fiasco.

Latest - the pole-making company, Mestron Holdings Bhd, had clarified it did not have the ministry's approval or a clearance letter to purchase or distribute the vaccines. Instead, it clarified that its intention is to explore and venture into the vaccine distribution business by partnering with a China-based company.

The steel pole maker also refuted news reports citing Mestron as saying it had received a letter of permission from the Health Ministry to begin the negotiation process. This is because only the ministry has the authority to manage access to and the purchase of the vaccines.

While the public are being sufficiently briefed on vaccine rollout, Zahid should just keep his silence. There is no time for politicking as the people and the economy have been badly hit by the pandemic. Already, a comprehensive communication plan on the vaccine for the public has already been carried out.

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister, Khairy Jamaluddin, also an Umno leader, had said the vaccine confidence must be built first to

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encourage people to willingly get themselves vaccinated. And the government is recruiting more than 10,000 vaccination staff such as general practitioners, pharmacists, nurses, medical students, community volunteers, you name it, YB Zahid, to be involved in the Covid-19 immunisation programme.

So, please be considerate. At this point of time where people are finding it hard to put food on the table, politicians like you, should be working together with the government to make all things for the people, work. It is a shame that some of our politicians are so overzealous with their political posturing and maneuvering that the people's plights have taken the back seat.

As a responsible MP, please do your part, YB Zahid. Stop making noises but round up as many volunteers as possible to help in the immunisation process. Together, we will win this battle.

ADAM AHMAD

Bukit Antarabangsa, Selangor

The views expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect those of the New Straits Times

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