

# Mahathir: Anwar admitted he likes to flirt with women

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JITRA: Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had confessed to the Umno supreme council on Sept 3 that he liked to flirt with women, the Prime Minister said yesterday.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Anwar told the council that he was a normal human being and asked (the council) that if there was a half-naked woman, "wouldn't he react like others." *53-10-98*

He said Anwar had said this in his defence at the meeting.

"We thought he was not like others. He looked so pious but then he admitted that he was not so pious," Dr Mahathir said at a meet-the-people gathering in Jitra here.

"These were Anwar's own words and not mine," said Dr Mahathir, adding that the proceedings of Umno supreme

council meetings were recorded on tape.

Speaking at a press conference later, Dr Mahathir said that he was willing to testify against Anwar.

"If there is a need for this, I will do it," he added.

He also said that Anwar had also lied to him when he said that Penang Umno would not nominate the former deputy

Prime Minister for the top party post.

Dr Mahathir said he checked with other state Umno leaders who said that Penang Umno did not make any decision about the matter.

Replying to a question, Dr Mahathir said although Anwar openly said that he would not contest against him, his (Anwar's) declaration had a differ-

ent meaning. He said what Anwar declared was that Penang Umno would not nominate him for president but he (Anwar) would accept nominations from divisions in the state.

On investigations of claims by Anwar that he was assaulted while in custody, Dr Mahathir said the police team set up would be "as independent as could be."