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Former DPM: Dr Mahathir scared of being challenged

BATU PAHAT, Sat. - MP for Permatang Pauh Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim today repeated abuses against Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, calling the Prime Minister a dictator who is scared of being challenged.

"He is a dictator. He is abusing his position as Home Minister to exploit and manipulate the police to safeguard his own political position.

"I was sacked from the party and Government not because of any wrongdoing or the alleged sexual improprieties but because he was scared of my growing popularity among the masses and for fear that I would mount a challenge against him," Anwar said.

The former Deputy Prime Minister, who has been sacked for alleged moral misconduct, said this at a ceramah at the residence of Sri Gading Umno Youth member Lokman Mohd Nor at Taman Koperasi about 2km from here.

He said although he had been sacked from Umno, he was still faithful to the party and believed in the party's struggles.

Anwar said what he was against was what he described as the gross injustice and abuse of power by Dr Mahathir and his "cronies" in the Cabinet.

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