

We're ready to consider coalition, says Kit Siang

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — The DAP is open to an electoral pact between itself and the opposition front despite having fundamental differences with Pas.

DAP national chairman Lim Kit Siang said while he was sceptical the opposition could topple Barisan Nasional in the next general elections, the DAP was all for denying the ruling coalition a two-thirds majority.

“The Prime Minister’s (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) influence has grown stronger in post-Sept 11. But we can concentrate on denying them the two-thirds in Parliament.”

Lim was responding to a statement by Pas president Datuk Fadzil Noor in the 48th Pas Muktamar inviting the DAP to form an electoral pact with the

opposition front ahead of the next general election.

The front consists of Pas, Parti Keadilan Nasional and Parti Rakyat Malaysia. The DAP left the coalition in September last year after it failed to reach a consensus with Pas over the latter’s Islamic state stand.

Lim said there had been no discussions so far between the front and the DAP over the allocation of seats or on a framework for such co-operation.

DAP acting secretary-general Chong Eng said the party had already tasked its national organising secretary Tan Kok Wai, to initiate the discussion.

She said an electoral understanding should be worked out to facilitate a straight fight between the BN and the opposition.