

## **BN ignores popular support, snubs Pakatan again**

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Despite a survey showing strong support for reconciliation between the BN government and the opposition, the ruling coalition today shrugged it off, shutting the doors on any dialogue with Pakatan Rakyat.

NONEThe cold shoulder comes only two days after Opposition Leader Anwar Ibrahim (left) renewed his offer for a national dialogue on pertinent issues afflicting the country.

"If we were to discuss with them, they will politicise it," Umno secretary-general Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor told journalists in Kuala Lumpur today.

"If they want to discuss, we are MPs, they (Pakatan) have 89 MPs and we have 133 MPs. Just discuss in Parliament," he added.

According to a University Malaya Centre for Election and Democracy (Umcedel) survey, a whopping 69 percent of respondents wanted to see reconciliation between the two opposing coalitions.

Pakatan, which reape 51 percent of the popular vote to BN's 47 percent had accused the ruling coalition of retaining power through fraud.

Soldiering on regardless

The disputed May 5 general election saw deepening partisanship between the two sides fuelling further an already toxic political relationship.

However, Anwar finally called for national dialogue of the eve of Merdeka Day last month, only to be quickly rebuffed by several leaders of the ruling coalition.

The Permatang Pauh MP later expressed frustration atB N's silo mentality but renewed the offer three days after Malaysia Day

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