

Anwar to ask Mat Taib to help in rural growth

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PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim said he will invite former BN leader Muhammad Muhammad Taib into the Selangor rural development programmes if he succeeds in his bid to enter the state legislative assembly.

Anwar, who is widely seen to be contesting the Kajang by-election to succeed Abdul Khalid Ibrahim as menteri besar, said this was because Muhammad has expertise in rural development.

"The measurement is, how will this benefit the people? This was pioneered by Khalid Ibrahim, and we have to improve this and continue our efforts in assisting one another in the Selangor government later.

"I also want to call on people like Mat Taib (to assist) as he has policy (ideas) on rural (development) programmes. We can benefit from him," he said in a video clip uploaded by news portal Antarapos.

According to the portal, the clip was recorded at a ceramah in Kajang last night.

Muhammad, who is better known as Mat Taib, was Selangor menteri besar from 1986 to 1997 but resigned after he was charged in Australia for not declaring that he was carrying RM3.8 million into the country.

He was found not guilty upon his defence that he did not understand English.

Mat Taib, who was at one time rural and regional development minister, joined PAS in April 2013.

In a Twitter post later, Anwar clarified that he did not mention bringing in Muhammad into the Selangor government.

"I didn't say 'government' but to assist in rural programmes," he added.

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