

Azizah: We'll work with PAS, and that 'person' to oust Najib

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Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail said the opposition is willing to work with anyone to oust Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak.

This, according to the wife of jailed former opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim, includes PAS and the "person" who placed Najib in the post but now has a different opinion of him.

Asked if she was referring to Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Wan Azizah, who is the current parliamentary opposition leader and PKR president, retorted, "Do not put words in my mouth, please."

In 1998, Mahathir sacked Anwar as his deputy, and the latter was subsequently charged with sodomy and abuse of power, for which he served five years in prison until his sodomy conviction was overturned.

Anwar had accused Mahathir and his allies of fabricating the charge. He is currently serving a five-year prison term on a second sodomy conviction, which he also claims was trumped up.

Mahathir (photo), on the other hand, has repeatedly called for Najib's resignation and is pushing for a vote of no confidence against the prime minister when Parliament reconvenes next month.

The former prime minister has publicly made his intention known, with a posting on his blog as well last month, suggesting that BN MPs would only be willing to join forces with the opposition to oust Najib if the opposition accepts that the new government will still comprise purely of BN parties.

PAS exclusion 'personal opinion'

The nonagenarian also showed up at the Bersih 4 rally twice. This even led to Anwar, who is serving a five-year jail sentence, welcoming the presence of his former nemesis at the rally.

On former PAS central committee member and now Parti Amanah Negara leader Mohd Hanipa Maidin (photo) stating that PAS should not be in the new opposition coalition, Wan Azizah said it was his personal opinion.

"I respect his opinion, but I think we should be open to all," she told reporters after submitting a report on qazaf at the Selangor Islamic Department (Jais) against Umno-linked lawyer Muhammad Shafee Abdullah, who was also the prosecutor in her husband's Sodomy II case.

Hanipa yesterday suggested that PAS should be excluded from the opposition equation as it could be detrimental to PKR and DAP, considering non-Muslims have seemed to reject the Islamist party.

"For me, the attitude (of the) political style and of the PAS leaders now, PAS is not an asset to the opposition," Hanipa said.

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