

'PAS wants to advise Umno, not topple PM'

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PAS does not want to topple Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak and is prepared to advise Umno if government policies are changed.

The Islamist party's president Abdul Hadi Awang however said this is not an effort to get positions or be part of Putrajaya.

"PAS is prepared to become an adviser and aide if Umno changes government policies. We are not power-hungry or want to take over Putrajaya.

"If they refuse to accept advice or views, then we'll take a different approach that is to 'take over' the government," he was quoted as saying by Sinar Harian.

PAS, he said, wants to advise the government on issues such as the goods and services tax, housing, and the falling ringgit.

He added PAS agrees in principle with government aid for the people but not with the way it is being distributed, due to redundancies.

"Right now we want to fix the government, not follow the government or squabble for position. We don't want to topple the prime minister, but we want to fix (his) policies," he added.

However, Hadi then makes a contradictory remark by saying there are other ways to remove Najib, either via elections or a vote of no confidence.

"Of the 220 seats in parliament, (88) seats belong to the opposition. The question is, is that enough to topple him (Najib) in a vote of no confidence? (It won't happen) unless Umno joins in," he told the Malay daily.

He then clarifies that PAS will not work with Umno politically.

"Agreeing with Umno doesn't mean we will form political cooperation with them, because PAS is more comfortable being outside BN; in fact we will not join with Umno," he said.

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