

PKR supremo : I may have to defer Sept 16
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Opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim said he may have to defer his Sept 16 deadline to form a new government given that the Barisan Nasional had recently sent a large team of backbenchers to Taiwan on an agricultural study trip.

Anwar sodomy 2 trial session court 100908 08 "We definitely have sufficient numbers (of MPs), but we would have to wait first as they are currently 'enjoying Ramadan' in Taiwan," Anwar was quoted as saying by the Star newspaper.

The former deputy prime minister said he had information the members of parliament would not be allowed to return from Taiwan before Sept 16 in order to thwart his plans.

Anwar's Pakatan Rakyat alliance has 82 out of the 222 seats in parliament. The 61-year old had promised voters he would overturn the Barisan's currently held majority by inviting its MPs to defect to the Pakatan camp.

The date can be postponed

"After discussing with PAS and DAP, the date can be postponed even though our target was Sept 16 previously," Anwar said in a speech at his home last night.

"However, I believe the present government will find it difficult to quell the uproar of the rakyat," he added.

The opposition leader, who was in court today to hear sodomy charges made against him, also said the Pakatan would hold a meeting this evening or tomorrow.

"The meeting on Pakatan's preparations for Sept 16 will be held tomorrow evening or the following day," Anwar said.