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It should be alternative government, says Anwar

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PETALING JAYA: Parti Keadilan Rakyat adviser Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim wants the coalition his party has formed with the DAP and Pas to be known as the "alternative government" or "government-in-waiting".

He said he also doesn't like "the term opposition leader".

PKR won the most number of parliamentary seats for the opposition with 31 seats, followed by the DAP with 28 and Pas with 23. PKR also dominates in Selangor, besides having a strong presence in Penang and Perak.

When asked if there were offers from Barisan Nasional to join the ruling federal coalition, Anwar replied: "We're in control of five states as well as the federal territory (of Kuala Lumpur).

"It doesn't make sense for me to ever consider joining Umno or BN."

Anwar also denied rumours that he was trying to entice BN assemblymen and MPs to cross over to the opposition.

SMSes have been sent claiming that there were attempts to buy over MPs and assemblymen from Sabah and Sarawak with offers of cash.

However, he said, BN representatives who shared the opposition's ideals could meet him to discuss about crossing over.

Asked whether he would ask his wife to vacate her Permatang Pauh parliamentary seat, Anwar said: "Why must it be in Permatang Pauh? Why not anywhere else? Maybe there are BN representatives who want to resign."