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Anwar: We want to rule with stability

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KUCHING: Pakatan Rakyat will not form the next federal government if it does not have a comfortable majority of MPs on its side, said Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR) adviser Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

"I do not want a three or four simple majority. We need a comfortable majority because stability (of the government) is paramount," he told reporters here yesterday in response to his earlier statement that the Opposition coalition could form the next government by Sept 16.

He said Pakatan Rakyat needed Barisan Nasional MPs from Sarawak and Sabah to join the Opposition alliance to make it a "national movement for change".

"Now we have the numbers. If they (Barisan Nasional leaders) say we do not have the numbers, we will prove them wrong.

"They say there is no way the Barisan Dayak or Kadazan MPs will desert us (Barisan). We will see. The surprise will be coming, maybe in August," he added.

Anwar reiterated that his priority now was to ensure that the five states under Pakatan Rakyat's rule were managed well and that he was coordinating and forging a formidable Opposition alliance.

He said that as Sabah and Sarawak had delivered more than 50 parliamentary seats to the Barisan Nasional, it was time for the people of the East Malaysian states to demand bigger representation in the federal administration and government-linked companies.

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DATUK SERI ANWAR IBRAHIM

He said there were many professionals in Sabah and Sarawak who had impressive credentials to hold positions in such companies.

Anwar said oil-producing Sarawak, like Sabah and Terengganu, would be given 20% oil royalty if Pakatan Rakyat took over the federal government.

Asked if he would support calls from within Umno that Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi should resign as the Prime Minister, he said that was for Umno to decide.

Earlier, Anwar launched PKR Mambong division at a restaurant along Kuching-Serian Road, and met with several Dayak leaders.