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# Rantings of an 'old man', says Anwar

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**SHAH ALAM:** Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR) adviser Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday rubbished "attacks" against him by his political boss, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"It's an old man ranting. Don't pay much attention to him," said Anwar, adding he had not responded to Mahathir's 'attacks' over the last few years.

"I think it is a bit too much" said Anwar on the continuous accusations against him by Mahathir.

"He's getting a bit too tired and confused. I've not paid any Jewish lobbyist .... he has. I've not met any Israeli government leader, he has met them ... quietly, when he was the prime minister," said Anwar, who was Mahathir's deputy from 1995 to 1998.

"Accusations that I am a Jewish agent and Israeli supporter is very defamatory," said Anwar, alleging instead that Mahathir was the one who had met an Israeli prime minister, in secrecy.

Anwar also claimed that Mahathir had paid millions of ringgit to an American Jewish lobbyist named Zack Abraham, a big-time "gambling" head in the United States.

Mahathir had on Saturday said that only Israelites will vote for Anwar as prime minister, when asked whether Anwar had any credibility to be elected prime minister.

"He should instead pay attention to his health and ask for the people's forgiveness for all his cruelty and wrongdoings," said Anwar, calling on Mahathir to explain how he destroyed the judiciary, how he controlled the media, how he put so many hundreds of people under the Internal Security Act (ISA) during *Ops Lallang*.

Mahathir, he claimed, should also explain his involvement in various

corrupt practices, serious mismanagement, and misappropriation of government funds through the destruction of many government-linked companies, including Perwaja.

"I think it is better for him to deal with these issues. I've refrained for years, from responding to him, because I think I want to move on, but

apparently he is very scared about this new phenomenon of people speaking up and wanting to seek change," said Anwar, adding that Mahathir only wants to make sure his nominees take over to protect his and his family's interests.

"I don't believe

Malaysians would allow that easily," said Anwar at a press conference after attending a leadership seminar organised by PKR for its newly elected MPs and state assemblymen at a hotel here yesterday.

He said the seminar was organised to inform newly-elected PKR representatives on the do's and don't's as well as the party's rules and regulations.

"We also discussed separating business from public office work and anti-corruption. The public have high expectations and we should not allow doubts to be created," he said, adding that they also discussed strengthening PKR's cooperation with its other partners in Pakatan Rakyat, the DAP and PAS.

Asked about Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's succession plan, Anwar said he does not know about it. "But Umno together with MIC, MCA and Gerakan are in a turmoil ... and the best option is for them to join Pakatan Rakyat," he quipped.

