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'Dr M trying to save son's career'

'DESPERATE': He wants Mukhriz to hold country's most powerful post, says Annuar

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TUN Dr Mahathir Mohamad's proposal to set up a new political party is merely to save the political career of his son, Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir, a senior Umno leader warned opposition pact Pakatan Harapan yesterday.

Umno information chief Tan Sri

Annuar Musa, however, said the success or failure of Dr Mahathir's plan, which includes the creation of a new opposition front, rested firmly in the hands of Pakatan Harapan.

"It is unclear whether Pakatan Harapan wants to help Dr Mahathir achieve his goal of making his son (Mukhriz) a dominant force in the political arena.

"Dr Mahathir, at the moment, has no party of his own, while Pakatan

Harapan has a leader in Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail," Annuar said yesterday.

He said the onus was on Dr Wan Azizah, not Dr Mahathir, to decide the future direction of Pakatan Harapan.

He said Dr Mahathir's excuse of wanting to "clean up" and "save" Umno was ostensibly unacceptable to the opposition.

"Dr Mahathir's agenda is to safeguard the position of his son, Mukhriz.

"This can be done only if a new party, and eventually a new coalition, is set up for Mukhriz.

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"Dr Mahathir is a desperate man because time is running out for him. He wants to make sure his son sits in the highest and most powerful position in the country."

Annuar said Barisan Nasional welcomed the setting up of Dr Mahathir's party, which aimed to challenge BN in the next general election, slated to be held by 2018.

On Saturday, Dr Wan Azizah, who is PKR president, was quoted as saying that the party would decide whether to cooperate with the new party Dr Mahathir wanted to set up.



Tan Sri Annuar Musa