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Newspaper	NEW STRAITS TIMES
Date	19 MAY 2016

Torn between working with Dr M or Anwar

NST-19/5/2016

CONUNDRUM: Anwar will be irrelevant if opposition chooses to work with Dr M, says Shabery

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THE opposition faces a conundrum in deciding whether they should continue working with jailed former opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim or his nemesis, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"They have to decide whether they want to work with Dr Mahathir, or be tied to Anwar's doctrine, which is founded on the basis of opposing the former prime minister who had purportedly 'oppressed' and 'slandered' him.

"His doctrine, struggles and the public uprising through the 'Reformasi' campaign were founded on the alleged wrongdoings of Dr Mahathir," said Umno Supreme Council member Datuk Seri Ahmad Shabery Cheek yesterday.

Shabery was responding to Anwar's letter, which warned PKR leaders against trusting

Dr Mahathir.

Anwar had reportedly penned the eight-page letter from the Sungai Buloh Prison to PKR leaders.

He had also expressed concern that party leaders had become too involved in Dr Mahathir's movement.

Shabery said if the opposition chose Dr Mahathir over Anwar, it meant that the bloc had decided to forgo Anwar's relevance in their political objectives.

"Such a collaboration would be akin to forgiving what Dr Mahathir had said about him (Anwar) when he was sacked as deputy prime minister in 1998," he said, adding that opposition leaders involved in the Mahathir-Kit Siang declaration might have their own agenda in pursuing such a partnership.

On Tuesday, PKR president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail confirmed that the letter was written by her husband, Anwar.

Earlier, Shabery, who is also the agriculture and agro-based industry minister, arrived at Sri Pentas here for a working visit.

He and his team of officers met with Media Prima Berhad chairman Datuk Seri F D Iskandar, group managing director Datuk Seri Amrin Awaluddin and New Straits Times Press chief executive officer Datuk Mohammad Azlan Abdullah to speak on ways to publicise the ministry's campaigns and initiatives.

“Such a collaboration would be akin to forgiving what Dr Mahathir had said about him (Anwar) when he was sacked as deputy prime minister in 1998.

Datuk Seri Ahmad Shabery Cheek
Agriculture and agro-based industry minister and
Umno Supreme Council member

