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## Not up to Dr M to name Opposition's candidate for PM, says Anwar

**PETALING JAYA:** It is not up to Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to decide who should be the Opposition's candidate for prime minister if it wins the general election, said PKR leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

There must be consensus among Pakatan Harapan members in naming the candidate, he told an English

news portal at a Shah Alam court yesterday.

On the Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia chairman's recent statement that he "might be forced to consider" becoming prime minister again if his friends in the Opposition want him, Anwar said: "It is not for him, it is for Harapan (to decide)."

"People don't volunteer (to be

prime minister), there has to be consensus," he told the news portal on the sidelines of a court hearing.

PKR maintains that Anwar is its candidate for prime minister, though the dynamics may change with Pribumi in Pakatan.

Pribumi had previously thrown its support behind its chairman and its president, Tan Sri Muhyiddin

Yassin, as its candidate of choice.

Anwar is serving a five-year prison sentence for sodomising his former aide Mohd Saiful Bukhari Azlan in 2008.

He will be barred from contesting in any election for five years after he is freed from prison.

Separately, MCA publicity bureau chairman Datuk Chai Kim Sen said

there was no consensus among the Opposition coalition on who should be prime minister.

"This highlights the seriousness of their internal conflict.

"Pakatan may appear to be a coalition on the surface but in reality it has many personal interests at its heart," he said in a statement yesterday.