

WE BACK ANWAR, SAY AMANAH, DAP

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Both parties willing to wait six months for Anwar to take over as premier

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AFTER pleading with Pakatan Harapan (PH) component parties to back Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad as the pact's prime ministerial candidate, Parti Amanah Negara (Amanah) and DAP said they never wavered in their support for PKR president Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

In a joint statement, Amanah president Mohamad Sabu and DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng said they were consistent in their support for Anwar as prime minister since 1998 and would continue to back him.

Both parties said the pact's po-

litical journey had taken 22 years and, as such, they were willing to wait another six months for Anwar to be anointed as the 10th prime minister.

"This six-month transition period would be documented in written form, signed by all party leaders and will be announced publicly."

The joint statement was believed to be issued in response to PKR's decision to reject the move to renominate Dr Mahathir as prime ministerial candidate for PH.

It was decided at a special meeting of the PKR Central Executive Council on Friday, which also saw the involvement of the party's members of parliament.

On May 30, the PH Presidential Council submitted two nominees, in the event the pact was elected to lead the government, namely Anwar being nominated

as prime minister and Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir as deputy prime minister.

The proposal, however, was given the thumbs-down by Dr Mahathir and Parti Warisan Sabah, PH's ally.

The second choice saw Dr Mahathir being nominated as prime minister and Anwar as deputy prime minister with a six-month transition period, which will see the Port Dickson MP taking over the top post.

The statement was issued in line with the current political scenario, with the only realistic

option to form the next government is to combine the strength of all five parties: PKR, Amanah, DAP, Warisan and Dr Mahathir's faction from Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia.

Mohamad and Lim, in the statement, said even though Dr Mahathir, Warisan and PKR could not agree, all parties in PH,

Warisan and Dr Mahathir's faction must find common ground to reclaim the mandate given by the people in the 14th General Election in 2018.

"This is a sacred struggle to democratise the value of millions of Malaysians who had chosen (us) to change the government, to cast out a corrupt and kleptocratic administration, involving billions of United States dollars."

The statement implied that an effort to honour the election mandate given by the people to change the government in the 14th General Election was ongoing.

"We have been criticised for being slow to act in demanding back the mandate given by the people, but when a realistic path is found, we are criticised for being power crazy.

"This is unfair, as we are not afraid of being the opposition.

The people voted in 2018 for us to take over the government."

Mohamad and Lim said Amanah and DAP had worked tirelessly in the last three months to find a common point, which would be accepted by all.

"Unfortunately, the effort is yet to be successful.

"We hope that PKR and Dr Mahathir as well as Warisan do not distance themselves, but close ranks and be united (with PH).

"Seeing each other as enemies would not help the people's

cause, but will only aid those who had overthrown a legitimately elected government of the people, with a government without the people's mandate.

"Only when we are agreeable, will we be able to ensure that PH can reclaim the government of the people," the statement said.



Mohamad Sabu



Lim Guan Eng