

Dr M brushes off Anwar's offer of cooperation

PETALING JAYA: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has poured cold water on Pakatan Harapan chairman Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's gesture that the door for cooperation could possibly be still open.

The former prime minister said he had offered to cooperate with Anwar and the Pakatan coalition on several occasions but it was rejected by the Port Dickson MP.

"We offered to cooperate with Pakatan, but Anwar rejected me totally.

"Cannot do anything, cannot get along. It was him, not me," he said at a press conference after attending a Parti Pejuang Tanah Air event in Shah Alam yesterday.

Anwar, who is PKR president, said on Tuesday that a consensus within Pakatan would decide whether it would work with Dr Mahathir again, adding that the coalition was open to working with any political parties, provided they adhere to the reform agenda and take a firm stance against corruption.

"Anyone can be invited to (cooperate) but they must adhere to the principles of not championing personal agendas or destructive (behaviour) of old," said Anwar, following calls by several Opposition MPs for a grand coalition to be formed.

It is understood that certain DAP and Parti Amanah Negara leaders were mediating relations between PKR and Pejuang in order to forge a united opposition coalition to take on Perikatan Nasional.

Dr Mahathir also said Parti Warisan Sabah president Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal's candidacy as prime minister was rejected by Anwar.