



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim visiting a booth after the launch of the Fikrah Siddiq Fadzil: Citra Budaya dan Peradaban Bangsa Malaysia event at Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. PIC BY AIZUDDIN SAAD

'NOT FROM ME'

PM: NO OFFER MADE TO PAS TO JOIN UNITY GOVT

PH, BN leaderships have never talked about inviting Pas to join unity govt, says Anwar

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has dismissed claims by several Pas leaders that the Islamic party has been offered a role in the unity government.

Anwar said the matter had never been discussed by the top leadership of Pakatan Harapan and Barisan Nasional.

"I am not aware of it. I have no knowledge of the matter.

"I do not know who the party branch leader is (that Pas leaders claimed had made the offer).

"If it is not from me, then it is certainly not on behalf of the leadership in the government," he said after the launch of the Fikrah Siddiq Fadzil: Citra Budaya dan Peradaban Bangsa Malaysia event here yesterday.

Anwar, who is PH chairman,

was responding to claims by several Pas leaders, including president Tan Sri Abdul Hadi Awang, that the party had been contacted by several individuals who wanted to meet him to offer Pas to join the unity government.

Hadi claimed the offer came about after Pakatan Harapan, especially PKR, realised that their position was unstable as the number of Malay-majority seats they held were not as many as Pas.

On Monday, Pas deputy president Datuk Seri Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man also said several quarters had contacted Pas to offer to join the unity government.

He had said the offer was made to him by a representative from the government.

He had said the party would remain with Perikatan Nasional (PN), like it promised during the general election campaign.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said there had been no attempt to include Pas in the unity government.

Zahid, who is BN chairman and Umno president, said the matter had never been discussed by the leaders of the 19 component parties in the unity government.

"We never considered it at official meetings and not a single move has been made in that di-

rection," he said after chairing the Sports Development Cabinet Committee meeting yesterday.

He said he no longer trusts Pas. "I'm done with the party as they practise *mutaah* (marriage of convenience) in politics.

"None of the parties in the unity government believe them because they never keep their promises.

"I think for the time being we should forget about that."

He said political stability was necessary despite differences in opinion.

"Differences in opinion should be celebrated according to the etiquette of dealing with differences. If only they (Pas) understood that."

Zahid said any party that believed it was needed in the unity government must prove it in the Dewan Rakyat.

"They should demonstrate their support during debates on important bills or during the tabling of the mid-term review of the 12th Malaysia Plan or the 2024 Budget in October."

On the claim by Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia information chief Datuk Razali Idris that Umno had become shaky following the purported "offer" made to Pas, Zahid said: "It appears that Pas knows more than me."