

ALLOCATIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

PM TO PN MPs: TALK TO FADILLAH

**Anwar advises
opposition bloc to
resume talks over
constituency funds
with DPM**

KUALA LUMPUR

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has urged opposition members of parliament to resume discussions with Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof regarding allocations for their constituencies.

This follows the statement by opposition lawmakers on Friday that they will stop negotiations or requests for allocations for their areas with Fadillah.

“Discuss with DPM Fadillah,” Anwar said after the launch of the National Family Month at Dataran Putrajaya here yesterday.

On allegations that there were many conditions that opposition MPs had to comply with if they wanted to request allocations for their areas, Anwar said:

“None.”

Perikatan Nasional (PN) chief whip Datuk Seri Takiyuddin Hassan on Friday said the opposition

pact was firm about not proceeding with the discussions with the unity government over equal distribution of parliamentary allocations.

Takiyuddin said he met Fadillah twice to discuss the allocations. He claimed that the opposition was asked to write a letter to the unity government for parliamentary allocation.

Takiyuddin questioned why such conditions were imposed.

He said the previous administration under the leadership of Bera MP Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob offered the opposition to sign a memorandum of understanding for these allocations.

“We will not submit any formal request to the government (for the parliamentary allocation).”

Anwar had, in April, said the government would offer opposition MPs equal allocations as those granted to government lawmakers.

He said the proposals detailing how the money would be spent must be submitted to Fadillah.

Such remarks did not go down well with the opposition, with Pas deputy president Datuk Seri Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man asserting that the pact would not beg for the allocations and that it was the responsibility of the unity government to channel the allocations to them.