

Anwar says no street protest, but insists on more rallies
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By Syed Jaymal Zahiid

PETALING JAYA, May 15 — Pakatan Rakyat (PR) today distanced itself from calls for street protests to overturn the results of Election 2013, with Opposition Leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim saying the pact will stick to indoor rallies to “voice their disgust” at alleged electoral fraud in the May 5 polls.

Anwar said calls for a mass street protest to oust the elected Barisan Nasional (BN) administration did not originate from PR but from affiliated non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

“These are just suggestions and it was never raised to the leadership and it is not something that is adopted by leadership,” he told a press conference after chairing a PR presidential council meeting here.

Several activists were reported suggesting mass street protests to remove BN from power, alleging that the coalition had won Election 2013 fraudulently.

Among them was Hishammuddin Rais, a steering committee member of poll reforms group Bersih.

The left-leaning leader was reported to have told a forum on Monday that street demonstrations was the best recourse to affect a change in government, claiming that attempts to challenge the election results through legal channels would be futile.

PR has repeatedly alleged that Election 2013 was marred with widespread electoral fraud.

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