

PH leaders must resolve PM candidate crisis, says Amanah
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The coalition's top leaders have to 'become good listeners', says Amanah deputy president Salahuddin Ayub.

PETALING JAYA: Now is the time for Pakatan Harapan's (PH) presidential council to show the people its wisdom by resolving the crisis it is facing in naming its prime minister candidate, says Amanah deputy president Salahuddin Ayub.

He said PH should be able to handle the crisis as it had credible leaders like Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, Lim Kit Siang and Mohamad Sabu.

"Actually, the solution is right in front of us. Don't we have a presidential council that's capable of resolving this mess?"

"Sit down and discuss (the matter) for the sake of the people, then (we can) move forward to serve them and reform this country," he said in a statement today.

The issue of who should be prime minister if the opposition coalition succeeds in forming the next federal government has become even more complicated since PPBM became a component of PH.

Prior to this, PKR, DAP and Amanah appeared to have no problem with the plan to make former opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim their prime minister.

Tension heightened however during PKR's 12th congress last Sunday, when PKR delegates raised placards calling for Anwar to be made PH's prime minister as invited guests from PPBM looked on.

The gimmick caused uneasiness among some quarters, including PPBM Youth chief Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman, who has urged that an independent survey be conducted so the people's choice for the nation's top post can be identified.

Speaking further about the issue, Salahuddin said PKR had the right to act as it did at its congress, and advised PH's top leaders to "become good listeners" by prioritising the views of the grassroots.

"Sometimes, leaders have to be brave to go against the tide and face criticism from their members for the sake of the people and the country.

"This is the characteristic of leaders who are willing to put the people's interests ahead of theirs and their party's."

He added that whoever PH's prime minister candidate was, he or she must be a leader who could gain the people's trust.

"If PH wants Anwar as the prime minister, he'll be the 8th, not the 7th PM.

"The 7th prime minister will be responsible for forming the cabinet, reforming the administration and working towards getting Anwar a pardon," said Salahuddin.

A nationwide survey conducted by PKR-linked Invoke Malaysia, headed by the party's vice-president Rafizi Ramli, found that Anwar was the most preferred prime minister candidate among PH leaders.

PPBM chairman Dr Mahathir Mohamad came in second and PPBM president Muhyiddin Yassin third.

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