

I'm Najib's equal, says 'top dog' Mahathir

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The PH chairman says his position in Pakatan Harapan equals that of Najib Razak, who chairs Barisan Nasional.

PUTRAJAYA: Dr Mahathir Mohamad says his recent appointment as the Pakatan Harapan (PH) chairman makes him the “top dog” in the opposition coalition and an equal to Prime Minister Najib Razak who chairs Barisan Nasional (BN).

“I am one of the leaders (in PH), and I have been appointed the chairman. As the chairman, I will chair the presidential council. So to a certain extent, in Pakatan’s hierarchy, I am the top dog.

“He (Najib) is the top dog there (in BN). I’m the top dog here,” Mahathir told reporters at the Perdana Leadership Foundation here today.

PH last week agreed to appoint Mahathir as the coalition’s chairman. Its leadership line-up also saw Anwar Ibrahim as the de-facto leader, and Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail as president.

Mahathir dismissed suggestions that the posts of de-facto leader, chairman and president meant that the coalition agreed to have three prime ministers, adding there were ways to avoid conflicts between the top leaders.

“The constitution says we can only have one prime minister.

“So there is a need for one leader to lead the respective parties,” he said.

He said a similar line-up can be seen within his own party, PPBM.

“In PPBM, we have a chairman which is me, and we have a president who is Muhyiddin (Yassin). Have you seen us fighting each other?”

Umno Supreme Council member Nazri Aziz recently said PH was doomed, saying Mahathir and Anwar, once bitter rivals, would battle against each other.

“My feeling is good because they are going to kill each other,” the tourism and culture minister had said.

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