

Kit Siang calls for Pakatan moratorium on disputes, negative comments
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Anwar Ibrahim's willingness to step aside must be used by opposition coalition to stop infighting and focus on change desired by Malaysians, says DAP supremo.

PETALING JAYA: The decision by former opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim to withdraw from being prime minister-designate should see Pakatan Harapan come together to reignite the hopes and dreams of Malaysians for electoral and political change, says Lim Kit Siang.

The DAP parliamentary leader also called for opposition leaders to keep any differences within the walls of the four-party coalition, comprising PKR, Amanah, DAP and PPBM.

“There have been too many negative news, reports and background write-ups about Pakatan Harapan reinforcing the malaise of public disappointment and disenchantment about the possibility of political and electoral change.

“Pakatan Harapan must respond positively to the cries by all Malaysians, regardless of race, religion or region, for leadership, change and a re-set of nation building directions and policies,” Lim said, adding that it was time to capitalise on Barisan Nasional’s (BN) weaknesses.

On Saturday, Anwar released a statement in which he said he had decided not to offer himself as Pakatan Harapan’s prime ministerial candidate for the next general election (GE14), citing friction over the issue within the opposition coalition.

He had also called for a single-minded focus on the coming general election over all other issues.

Lim, who is also Gelang Patah MP, wants the opposition coalition to also take advantage of the current pressures on Prime Minister Najib Razak and his ruling coalition.

“With Najib and the Umno/BN coalition buried almost up to their neck by their failures, fiascos and scandals, especially the financial scandals of 1MDB and FGV, in the midst of a train of economic, educational, social and nation-building disasters, Pakatan Harapan must respond positively to the cries by all Malaysians,” he said.

He also called for Pakatan Harapan parties and leaders not to let Malaysian voters down.

“The robust views, debates and differences in Pakatan Harapan and among its leaders must continue, but within the four walls of Pakatan Harapan, as we must not give fodder to Umno and BN propagandists and cybertroopers to continue to concoct fake news and false information about the coalition.

“Pakatan Harapan parties and leaders must instead project a positive image to build a unified and cohesive pact and focus externally on the issues that concern Malaysians,” Lim said.

He also proposed a month of moratorium by Pakatan Harapan leaders to avoid negative statements and background briefings which could be exploited.

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