

PPBM denies bid to dominate Pakatan Harapan

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Party's information chief says it only proposed to appoint Dr Mahathir as PH chairman but is open to compromise on the president post.

PETALING JAYA: PPBM today denied it was trying to dominate Pakatan Harapan (PH), the opposition coalition it joined only months ago, by demanding the top posts of chairman and president.

PPBM information chief Kamarudin Md Nor said the party merely proposed that its chairman, former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad, be named as PH's chairman.

"We only proposed for (PPBM president) Muhyiddin Yassin as the PH president to strengthen the PH leadership in preparing for the 14th general election due to his wide experience in leading election campaigns," he said, alluding to Muhyiddin's time as the Barisan Nasional (BN) deputy chairman.

"PPBM is prepared to compromise on the post of PH president in the spirit of consensus," he added. Apart from PPBM, PH also comprises DAP, PKR and Amanah.

Kamaruddin said PPBM had submitted its proposals at the June 9 meeting of PH, and was willing to accept any decision if agreed to unanimously by all the parties.

Agreement on the PH leadership line-up by the four parties is crucial to enable the coalition to seek registration as an official pact, under one logo, by the Registrar of Societies (RoS).

Kamaruddin's statement came a day after opposition leader and PKR president Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail said PH was still trying to resolve differences over the line-up.

She added that pending the leadership line-up, the registration of the pact would be delayed until after the Raya holidays.

Previously, Wan Azizah had said the coalition was aiming to be registered before Raya.

Yesterday, it was also reported that PPBM chief strategist Rais Hussin had defended the party's decision to name Mahathir and Muhyiddin to the top PH posts, stating that the two were a realistic choice to lead the opposition against the ruling BN.

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