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MALAYSIA'S MAHATHIR SAYS PARLIAMENT WILL PICK NEW PM

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King says lower house to vote on a new leader on March 2 if legislators cannot agree on a candidate to lead the nation.

Malaysia's interim leader Mahathir Mohamad has said parliament will pick a new prime minister next week following the collapse of the ruling alliance and snap elections will be called if the vote ends in an impasse.

Mahathir, who met the king earlier on Thursday, said the monarch could not find a candidate with a clear majority to lead the nation after consulting all 222 legislators over the last two days.

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