
IRAQI PRIME MINISTER CANDIDATE ALLAWI QUILTS AS VACUUM LOOMS

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Reuters (1 March 2020)

Iraqi Prime Minister-designate Mohammed Allawi withdrew his candidacy for the post on Sunday, accusing political parties of obstructing him, deepening a domestic crisis and threatening an unprecedented power vacuum.

His move came hours after parliament failed for the second time in a week to approve his cabinet amid political infighting in the oil producer, where mass protests and deadlock between lawmakers are delaying Iraq's recovery from years of war.

Allawi's appointment was meant to ease a crisis as the Shiite-led country faces a mass protest movement that broke out in October and brought down Prime Minister Adel Abdul Mahdi.

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