

Anwar out to topple Dr M, 5-21-9-98 says Sanusi

MALACCA: Kedah Menteri Besar Tan Sri Sanusi Junid yesterday claimed that Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had been grooming certain leaders within the Barisan Nasional component parties to help topple Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Sanusi claimed Anwar had cultivated these leaders from Umno, MCA and MIC.

In Umno, Sanusi said, Anwar had used the *Wawasan* team to topple Tun Ghafar Baba, then the deputy party president.

"After that he (Anwar) removed his team members, including Tan Sri Rahim Tamby Chik and Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib, from politics because he was worried that the people might prevent him from becoming Dr Mahathir's successor," he said in a *ceramah* to the Batu Berendam Umno leaders at Bukit Baru here.

Sanusi also claimed that Anwar tried to topple MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik because Dr Ling was a good friend and strong supporter of Dr Mahathir.

Anwar tried to take over the MCA with his own people, but it had failed, said Sanusi.

Sanusi also said that Anwar had used the same strategy in MIC because party president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu was also loyal to Dr Mahathir.

"He (Anwar) should not blame other people for creating a conspiracy to topple him as he had created several conspiracies before," he said.

In Seremban yes.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri hamed Isa Abdul Samad also claimed that Anwar had conspired to topple Dr Mahathir by exploiting the issues of nepotism, cronyism and corruption at the last Umno general assembly.

"The issues were raised in the hope that the delegates would reject Dr Mahathir's leadership."

Isa claimed Anwar had even raised such issues abroad but Dr Mahathir had defended him, saying that they were not in reference to Malaysia.

He was commenting on Anwar's admission that it was he who had asked Zahid to raise the issues at the assembly.