

'Daim's the last one who should talk about graft'
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Opposition leaders today trained their guns on former Finance Minister Daim Zainuddin, saying he should be the last person to touch on the issue of graft.

PKR supremo Anwar Ibrahim said Daim's statements in an interview published by Malay daily Utusan Malaysia today stinks of an attempt by the latter to absolve himself of alleged graft committed during his tenure as a minister.

Linking Daim with Sarawak Chief Minister Abdul Taib Mahmud (right), Anwar claimed that they are trying to deflect the public spotlight from their alleged corruption.

"This is an attempt to save themselves from the corruption in Sarawak, because Daim and his cronies, their families, have enriched themselves with billions of ringgit... so he is upholding corruption," he said at a press conference after chairing a Pakatan Rakyat presidential council meeting in the Parliament tower block.

In the interview run by Utusan Malaysia today, Daim was quoted as saying that investors are seeking a climate that has good governance, transparency and certainty in the economy as well as being free from corruption.

Anwar, himself a former finance minister and former deputy premier, scoffed at Daim's statement.

"BN sends Daim out as their personality against corruption, and sends out Rahim Thamby Chik as their personality against sex. Hebat la tu (they're really great)," he said, making a reference to the latest sex video scandal which Rahim has claimed involves the opposition leader.

DAP advisor Lim Kit Siang (left) also questioned Daim's credibility, saying that the latter has little capital to work on if what his former boss, ex-Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed, says in his memoirs is true.

"Tun M said there were rumours circulating of his (Daim's) questionable credibility, which was the reason he was dropped from cabinet.

"He (Daim) should ask for a clarification... I don't think he's the best person to talk of fighting corruption," he said.

Lim brushed aside Daim's claim that BN is winning over public opinion, stressing his doubts that Malaysia is capable of improving its standing in Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index this year due to a lack of progress in the fight against corruption.

"The best example is in Sarawak, whether (or not) MACC will move in to clean up Sarawak and deal with the grand corruption there involving the chief minister," he claimed