

## **In dialogue debacle, 'Najib knew Dr M was invited'**

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Ketereh MP Annuar Musa said today Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak had ditched the now infamous 'Nothing to Hide forum on Friday not because of former premier Dr Mahathir Mohammad's presence.

Annuar said Mahathir was not a factor as Najib has already agreed to face Mahathir and the organiser even made seating arrangements for the former Umno president and prime minister.

"The prime minister and the organiser has agreed that Tun M (Mahathir) will come. Everything had been arranged and the seat for Tun M was also prepared but something else happened instead," said Annuar as quoted by the portal BN Backbenchers Club portal.

The portal also reported that Annuar said the failure of the police to handle attendees who showed up without invitation proved to be a reason for many speculation to arise about the controversial event,

Annuar was among those invited to the dialogue, which took place at the Putra World Trade Centre in Kuala Lumpur.

Meanwhile, when debating the 11th Malaysia Plan at Parliament today, Annuar in his speech made further reference to the incident.

"Things were alright at the beginning with all 1,500 people inside the hall but the crowd outside was different.

### **Cancelled at last-minute**

"It was chaotic because they did not have the invites but wanted to barge inside the hall even when held back by PWTC security personnel," he said.

He said Mahathir's action in taking to the stage which then prompted the police to stop him should also have not happened as it created even more speculations

"This thing should not have happened. The should have been controlled. With God's blessing, the event will be organised better in the future," he said.

Organised by a law-based NGO, SukaGuam, the dialogue session was supposed to be a no holds barred dialogue with Najib who did not turn up after the inspector-general of police called off the event at the last minute.

IGP Khalid Abu Bakar cited security concerns, claiming the police got a tip off that troublemakers were out to create chaos and he had to cancel the event even though the PM

did not agree this.

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