

**Anwar: MCA MPs will defect to Pakatan  
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Athi Veerangan**

PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim has dropped the clearest hint yet of impending crossovers to Pakatan Rakyat.  
MCPX

pakatan rakyat penang rally 160608 02 "I can safely say that several MCA MPs will join us soon," he told journalists yesterday, after opening a service centre in Bayan Baru, Penang.

However, as with previous assertions of the same variety, that was all he was prepared to reveal.

Anwar has been keeping the public on tenterhooks since the general election on March 8, with repeated claims of crossovers by Barisan Nasional (BN) parliamentarians, especially those in Sabah.

pakatan rakyat penang rally 160608 05 He said that discreet meetings have been held in Hong Kong, Manila and Singapore, to avoid scrutiny, and that "even a cabinet minister met me".

At a rally held last night in City Stadium, George Town, the former deputy premier worked up the crowd with similar promises.

"It's about time that we take over. It's only a matter of time for us to take over. We are so close to Putrajaya," he said to roars from some 30,000 people.

"It's very soon. I will not say how (soon). But it will happen soon."

He stressed that defecting MPs would have to accept the Pakatan tenets of good governance.

pakatan rakyat penang rally 160608 10 Anwar used the rally to obtain a 'referendum' on replacing the federal BN government and taking over as premier from Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

He and other Pakatan speakers exploited the escalating cost of living triggered by the fuel price hike, to bombard the BN government and raise the tempo of a disenchanting crowd.

"I can guarantee you all today that if Pakatan Rakyat were to form the federal government today, we will bring down the oil price tomorrow," said Anwar.

### **Salvoes against BN**

Penang Chief Minister and DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng, DAP advisor and Ipoh Timor MP Lim Kit Siang and PAS leader Mohamad Sabu also spoke at the rally.

pakatan rakyat penang rally 160608 07 Anwar said the BN government is still in a state of denial over the electoral debacle and that it has remained arrogant.

It has further betrayed the people's trust with an unreasonable and inhumane fuel price hike, he said, although it has contributed to this through economic and financial mismanagement.

Anwar also wondered aloud as to why BN partners are supporting Umno's weak political leadership and wrongdoing.

Saying that BN has run out of ideas in overcoming inflation, he said only Pakatan could save the country.

pakatan rakyat penang rally 160608 01"Let's join force to topple this irresponsible and arrogant government. If enough numbers support us (in Parliament), we will form the next government. The people of Penang must lead others in backing us for change to a better life," said Anwar.

Hinting that Abdullah could dissolve Parliament in a sudden move to "save his skin", he cautioned Pakatan leaders and members to be ready for a snap election.

"We must fight to win till the end," he said.

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