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1998 won't happen again, Wan Azizah told

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KUALA LUMPUR: PKR president Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail presented details of an alleged conspiracy against her husband to the Prime Minister during a 20-minute meeting at Parliament House.

Dr Wan Azizah said she and her daughter Nurul Izzah Anwar voiced their worries about Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim to Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

She said Abdullah gave the assurance that there would not be any "similar episode" to that of 1998 when Anwar was beaten up when in custody.

"We gave a copy of the police report made by Anwar at 3.30pm at the Shah Alam police station to the Prime Minister," Dr Wan Azizah told a press conference after the meeting yesterday.

She said Abdullah listened to them, understood their feelings and showed sympathy.

Dr Wan Azizah said the meeting yesterday resulted from her writing to Abdullah on Monday requesting a meeting between PKR leaders and the Prime Minister.

"I got an answer from the PM who said he wanted to see me without any other PKR leaders. I, however, brought along my daughter," she said.

During the meeting, Dr Wan Azizah said she asked Abdullah to give an assurance that Anwar's case would be handled with utmost professionalism and his safety would be protected.

"He agreed that an act of cruelty against Anwar had happened in 1998 when Anwar was beaten up in custody," she said.



Out in the open: Dr Wan Azizah relating to the media what had transpired at the 20-minute meeting she had with Abdullah.

"He gave the assurance that it would not happen again and there would not be a similar episode under his administration as the Prime Minister."

Dr Wan Azizah said she also raised the issue with the Prime Minister that high-ranking police officers were involved in Anwar's 1998 case.

On whether she was positive about Anwar's case being investigated professionally, she said: "I received his assurance and I hold strong to the assurance given by the PM."

When asked about people saying that it was ridiculous for Anwar to claim that his life was

threatened, Dr Wan Azizah said: "Why ridiculous? If you were in custody before and beaten up, you won't be saying this."

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