

# No such thing: Anwar, Guan Eng

The Sun - 19/2/2019 Pg. 2

## ► Pakatan leaders dismiss rumour on plot to topple PM

**PETALING JAYA:** Senior Pakatan Harapan (PH) leaders Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Lim Guan Eng have rubbished claims that there was a plot to remove Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad as prime minister.

Anwar said the claims, made by a PAS leader in a blog post, were "mere lies" and a "non-issue".

He said the motive behind the Islamist

party's claims was to divert attention from investigations into allegations that it had received RM90 million of 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) money.

Some PAS leaders have been accused of pocketing the money from the sovereign fund given to them by Umno.

Anwar, who was speaking to reporters after delivering a keynote address on education at Universiti Selangor, said PH component parties have also dismissed the allegations.

"Nobody wants to dwell on it because they think it is a non-issue and it is a PAS attempt to deflect the focus from the money taken from 1MDB," he said.

On Sunday, PAS secretary-general Datuk Takiyuddin Hassan was quoted as saying that PAS had decided to offer its support in writing to Mahathir because the Islamist party believed there was an attempt by some quarters in PH to initiate a vote of no-confidence against him.

Takiyuddin said PAS had pledged to support Mahathir in the event that the plot unfolded.

On the letter to show PAS support for Mahathir, Anwar said "it may be untrue".

"They (PAS) have permitted lying, so we don't know if it's true or not. They have said that they can lie to save the party, so we don't know if it is true."

Anwar said when he met Mahathir recently,

the matter was not discussed, adding that there was no need to discuss the matter with Mahathir.

The government machinery must focus on the economy instead of entertaining rumours, he added.

DAP secretary-general Lim, who was said to be the ringleader in the plot, has also denied the claim.

"I want to stress that Pakatan gives their undivided support to Mahathir," Lim said in a statement.

Lim, who is also finance minister, said PH rejected any attempt to undermine its support for Mahathir through dubious means.