

PM: PN GOVT STILL STANDING FIRM

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Anwar's claim that he has majority of MPs' support is unsubstantiated, says Muhyiddin

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TAN Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the Perikatan Nasional (PN) government is still standing strong and he is still the legitimate prime minister.

Muhyiddin said these were facts and that a claim made by opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, who suggested otherwise, was not something that has been substantiated.

“I take note of Anwar's statement claiming that he has the support of the majority of members of parliament to form the government.

“These allegations must be substantiated in accordance with the processes and methods determined in the Federal Constitution.

“Without going through the process, his statement is merely an allegation.

“Until proven otherwise, the PN government is still standing firm and I am the legitimate prime minister,” he said yesterday.

In urging Malaysians to remain calm amid Anwar's claim, Muhyiddin, who is Pagoh MP, said the matter would be handled based on the law.

“*Insyallah* (God willing), this issue will be dealt with well in accordance with the legal process and the Federal Constitution.”

Earlier yesterday, Anwar, who is PKR president, announced that he had “strong, formidable and convincing” support from MPs to form a new government.

He claimed he was supposed to have an audience with Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdulah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah on Tuesday, but it had to be postponed as the king was be-

ing treated at the National Heart Institute.

He said the support of the MPs meant the PN-led government had collapsed.

Meanwhile, Muhyiddin said the initiatives under Kita Prihatin, aimed at lessening the burden of the workforce and micro-entrepreneurs, as well as those in the Bottom 40 and Middle 40 per cent income groups, were proof that his administration was committed to resolving the people's woes.

“The government has heard the people's pleas. We will try our best to help them through these difficult times.”

Muhyiddin said Malaysia could not afford to rely on assistance from other countries since they were busy with their own problems.

“We can depend only on each other in our extended family of Malaysians. For six months, we have endured this difficult period. *Alhamdulillah* (praise be to God), we have prevailed.”

At a press conference on Facebook Live, Anwar, after announcing he had the MPs' support, in-

vited Muhyiddin to join his “new” government as this would ensure a smooth and peaceful transition.

“With the numbers I have, Muhyiddin is no longer the prime minister. I welcome him to cooperate (with the incoming administration) because I have no personal problems with him.”

Anwar said the new administration was not “a backdoor government”, but would be a Malay-Bumiputera majority government and inclusive of all races and religions.

Meanwhile, several cabinet ministers have hit out at Anwar for claiming that he had the MPs' support.

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Khairy Jamaluddin said on Twitter that the PN government was stable.

“Just finished the cabinet meeting. Nothing is collapsing or falling,” he said.

He also uploaded a photo of fellow cabinet members in the same tweet under his account @Khairykj.

Energy and Natural Resources Minister Datuk Dr Shamsul An-

war Nasarah, on his Facebook account, said the announcement was Anwar's strategy to restore his “drowning party”.

Gabungan Parti Sarawak (GPS) and Pas said it would continue supporting PN.

Pas secretary-general Datuk Takiyuddin Hassan said its MPs would not join Anwar's new government.

“We (Pas, Barisan Nasional (BN) and GPS secretaries-general) will issue a joint statement soon. There is nothing to be worried about the changes in government. If it is true (that there will be a change in government), we have the option to dissolve the government,” he said.

GPS secretary-general Datuk Alexander Nanta Linggi echoed a similar view and called on Anwar to stop playing politics during the Covid-19 pandemic.

He said GPS and the Sarawak state government led by Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Abang Openg would not be joining Anwar, and instead, it would continue its support for Muhyiddin. **Additional reporting by Teoh Pei Ying**