

'NO TIMELINE FOR CABINET ANNOUNCEMENT'

NST- 2/12/2022 pg. 3

There has been no delay, Anwar will announce the line-up soon, says PKR's Fahmi

ADIB POVERA
AND NOR AIN MOHAMED RADHI
KUALA LUMPUR
news@nst.com.my

A PKR leader yesterday said there has been no delay in the announcement of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's cabinet line-up as no timeline has been set for it.

"No exact date was given on when the announcement will be

made. So, there is no delay. But the prime minister will make the announcement quite soon," PKR information chief Fahmi Fadzil said when contacted yesterday.

Asked if the announcement will be made this week or by next week, he said: "We shall wait. I am not the prime minister, so I have no control over the timeline."

Speculation is rife that Anwar will announce his cabinet line-up soon following his audience with Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah on Tuesday.

It was learnt that Anwar presented the cabinet line-up during the audience as the king would depart for an official visit abroad on Saturday.

Asked whether Anwar has yet to announce the cabinet line-up be-

cause the Pakatan Harapan chairman was torn between public perception and pleasing component parties in his unity government, Fahmi said it was not the case.

"No, I do not think so. Every component party had been given sufficient time to have their internal discussions and come to their deliberation before arriving at the final list."

He said there was no such process during Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's and Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin's tenures as prime minister.

"Back then, they didn't go through the parties."



Fahmi Fadzil

Citing PKR as an example, Fahmi said the party had never proposed that former party leaders Datuk Seri Azmin Ali and Datuk Zuraida Kamaruddin be part of the then cabinet.

"Yet, at that time that was what happened. Similarly in Umno, there are people in the party who were never proposed to be in the cabinet, but Muhyiddin included them."

"When the process was problematic, we

saw many problems later on. Therefore, this time, we want to make sure the process is right and that each party's decision is upheld.

"*Insyallah*, the prime minis-

ter will make the announcement soon."

Anwar has been urged not to include Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and other members of parliament with ongoing court cases, including DAP chairman Lim Guan Eng and Malaysian United Democratic Alliance president Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman, in his cabinet.

Anwar, who was sworn in as Malaysia's 10th prime minister on Nov 24, had announced that the unity government he leads would have a smaller cabinet.

The cabinet of former prime minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob had 31 ministers and 38 deputy ministers.

Muhyiddin's cabinet had 31 ministers and as many deputy ministers.