

'Serious spending breach during Muhyiddin's term'

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PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said there was a "serious breach of procedure" in government spending during the administration of former prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

He said this included excessive procurements, high markups as well as funds being channelled to certain parties.

Commenting on the alleged misappropriation of RM600 billion in government funds during Muhyiddin's administration, Anwar said the cabinet did not discuss the issue.

He said yesterday that the formation of a Royal Commission of Inquiry (RCI) was not discussed and that he would leave it to the cabinet to decide.

"However, I was informed by several officers that there was a serious violation (of procedure). There were excessive procurements and when these were approved, the markup was too high. This went to certain parties, seeing that they had so much money to spend (during the 15th General Election)."

Anwar said he nevertheless was not keen on embarking on a witch hunt.

"I only wish to focus on good governance and economic recovery, which has seen improvement."

Parti Amanah Negara (Amanah) election machinery chief Sany Hamzan had previously called for an RCI to investigate the alleged spending

of RM600 billion in emergency funds during Muhyiddin's administration.

Sany, who is Hulu Langat member of parliament, had lodged a report regarding the matter on Nov 30. The controversy regarding the RM600 billion spent during the pandemic was initially raised by former Melaka chief minister Adly Zahari on Nov 15.

Adly had said Pakatan Harapan would investigate Muhyiddin if the coalition succeeded in forming the government after GE15.

Muhyiddin, however, insisted that all the money had been spent to help the people and all expenses were undertaken in accordance with procedures.