

Anwar just acknowledged Najib's apology, says aide

KUALA LUMPUR: An aide to Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said the prime minister had merely acknowledged Datuk Seri Najib Razak's apology regarding the 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) scandal.

"There is no question of the PM (Anwar) either accepting or rejecting the apology," said Kamil Munim, Anwar's political secretary in his role as finance minister.

"What the PM expressed was that he welcomed the apology, but this does not diminish or alter the fact that the country has suffered significant damage due to the 1MDB scandal," he added in a post on X.

Kamil said any attempt to justify the misconduct associated with the 1MDB scandal had been rendered moot by Najib's apology.

"No one is above the law. Justice must be upheld," he said.

Yesterday, lawyer and former Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission chief commissioner Latheefa Koya criticised Anwar

for supposedly "accepting" Najib's apology.

In **Kuching**, Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg also welcomed Najib's apology.

"We welcome his apology," he said after launching the Sarawak regatta here yesterday.

On Thursday, Najib issued an apology for his mishandling of the multi-billion-dollar 1MDB financial scandal, while maintaining that he had no knowledge of any illegal transfers from the now-defunct state fund.

He expressed remorse over the 1MDB scandal in a letter read by his son, Datuk Mohamad Nizar Mohd

Najib, on Thursday.

In 2022, the Federal Court upheld a guilty verdict against Najib for corruption and money laundering, ruling that he illegally received approximately US\$10 million from former 1MDB unit SRC International, which resulted in a 12-year prison sentence.

This sentence was subsequently halved by the pardons board.



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KAMIL MUNIM

Political secretary to the finance minister