

FIRM STANCE

PM: IT'S A WAR AGAINST GRAFT

No tolerance for politicians, officials who enrich themselves, says Anwar

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THE government will not tolerate officials or politicians misusing allocations for personal gain, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Anwar, who is also finance min-

ister, said he had declared war on corruption since taking office two years ago.

"I have decided to declare war on them. If the system is flawed, even with strong revenue, it will be lost if individuals only seek to enrich themselves.

"They are free to venture into business but if they abuse their power and positions in govern-

ment, I will not allow it.

"It's as if being the prime minister or the finance minister automatically means one must be wealthy.

"If this mentality persists, the country will be ruined," he said during the Madani Aidilfitri celebration at Pantai Irama here yesterday.

He added that some might claim there was selective enforcement, but the processes were managed independently.

"Investigations are handled by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption

Commission, prosecutions by the attorney-general and verdicts are decided by the courts.

"I have been prime minister for over two years, and not once have I spoken to a judge or interfered in any court proceedings."

About 10,000 people attended the event.

Present were Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability Minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad, Communications Minister Datuk Seri Fahmi Fadzil and Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Mohd Nassuruddin Daud.