

Anwar: No interference in probe on Shamsul

KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has assured the Opposition that there will be no interference in the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission's (MACC) investigation into Datuk Seri Shamsul Iskandar Mohd Akin's case.

The Prime Minister said the anti-graft agency is free to conduct its probe.

"Regarding the case being investigated by the MACC, what more do they want me to do? He is already in handcuffs and (the MACC's) orange garb," Anwar said, describing the condition of his former senior political secretary when brought to court for a remand application recently.

"Are you not convinced?" he asked the Opposition during the Prime Minister's Question Time in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

He said if he wielded as much influence as claimed, there would be other serious cases where arrests would have been made, adding that he has not said a word to the MACC about the probe.

He claimed there were big "syndicates" that were protected under the previous governments.

"Leave it to the investigating bodies to investigate and charge. Why do we want to become heroes to defend anyone?" he asked.

He was responding to a question by Masjid Tanah MP Datuk Mas Ermeyati Samsudin, who asked Anwar why he had not sacked Shamsul Iskandar earlier.

Shamsul Iskandar and businessman Albert Tei were remanded for six days since Saturday to assist investigations into alleged attempts to recover money said to have been previously distributed to several Sabah assemblymen.