

'UNDERSTAND THE LAW'

PM DENIES HIDING ADDENDUM ORDER

Anwar reveals that A-G's Chambers received a 'letter' about Najib's house arrest

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim denies hiding any addendum order allowing Datuk Seri Najib Razak to serve the remainder of his sentence under house arrest.

Speaking at the Muhibbah Madani 2025 programme here yesterday, he said people needed to understand the law before

commenting on the issue.

"All I can say is that we did not hide the addendum. The people need to understand the law," he said.

Anwar said a prisoner could appeal for clemency to the sultan or the ruler of the state where he or she was convicted three years after being sentenced.

He added that for Kuala Lumpur, the appeal is made to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

He said the Pardons Board, chaired by the ruler, would decide on these appeals based on the health, prison, Attorney-General's Chambers and police reports about the prisoner.

"In the case of Najib, during last year's (Pardons Board) meeting, was the issue (Najib's case) on the agenda? No, it was not. Who raised it? I did. Why did I raise it? Because whether I agreed or disagreed with that person, we gave

the king the opportunity to make a decision," said Anwar, adding that Najib's clemency application would not have been considered if he had not raised it.

"The reason I brought it up was because I clarified that the Yang di-Pertuan Agong was the one who presided over the case. I did not want to mention it because it involved the royalty. It could not be debated because it involved the royalty. That was why I could not answer because it involved the previous and current king," he said.

Anwar said he presented to the Pardons Board why Najib was in prison, the sentence, the public issue and the unresolved cases, among others.

"Why should it be considered? He was once the prime minister, the menteri besar, and had contributed to the country.

"His condition in prison is good

with no major issues. His health is generally fine, though he occasionally visited the hospital. That was my complete view.

"It is up to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong to decide. The Yang di-Pertuan Agong postponed the decision twice until last January.

"In January, the sentence was reduced from a RM210 million fine to RM50 million, and the prison sentence from 12 years to six. I am not a member of the Pardons Board now. I was a member before 2023 when I was the minister for the Federal Territories. After that, I appointed Dr Zaliha Mustafa, who attended the meeting (that decided on Najib's application). I did not.

"So, the decision was sent to the Prison Department, and that was the sentence," he said.

Anwar said the issue of the addendum was raised later.

He said the letter was delivered

to the Attorney-General's Chambers, not to him or members of the Pardons Board.

"And when the Yang di-Pertuan Agong changed, it was handed to Istana Negara because the king presided over the matter.

"That is the situation. It is not something we are hiding. The decision was simply an advisory from the A-G to the previous Yang di-Pertuan Agong, which I attended at that time.

"Any decision made was the decision of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, but within the Pardons Board's meeting, not outside it.

"So, was it raised in the meeting? When Zaliha was there, this issue was not raised. It was not hidden. That is all for now. Can an appeal still be made? Yes, to the new Yang di-Pertuan Agong. The (current) king has said so, and there is a statement from the king regarding the appeal."