

PM surprised by Nurul Izzah MB plan

JOHANNESBURG: A proposal by Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari for PKR deputy president Nurul Izzah Anwar to take over his role as Selangor MB has surprised her father.

Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, when asked about the matter here on Friday, appeared puzzled and shrugged off queries about his daughter's potential ascension to the role of Selangor MB.

The prime minister, when asked about the story quoting Amirudin, said: "That is his view. He has never discussed this with me.

Amirudin was on Friday quoted as saying that he had spoken to Nurul Izzah about taking over his post and that it was up to her whether to accept it.

He said this on the *Keluar Seke-*

jap podcast," hosted by Khairy Jamaluddin and Shahril Sufian Hamdan.

Amirudin, who is Gombak member of parliament, expressed his willingness to undertake duties at the federal level.

His remarks have sparked online chatter — not only about a possible leadership change in the country's richest state, but also about the likelihood of Anwar reshuffling his cabinet soon.

When asked about this, Anwar said there was still a long way to go before the next general election.

On whether there was going to be a cabinet reshuffle, he said: "That is to fill the vacancies. Who is going to fill these vacancies? Can you suggest some names? I will consider them."

When told that Amirudin said he was ready to move on to the federal level, Anwar said: "Okay, that is for one vacancy. What about numbers two and three? There are three vacancies at least."

Anwar has, all this while, remained mum when asked about rumours of a cabinet reshuffle, despite hints of it since last month.

Talks of a reshuffle were sparked following the resignations of economy minister Datuk Seri Rafizi Ramli and natural resources and environmental sustainability minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad.

Most recently, United Progressive Kinabalu Organisation president Datuk Ewon Benedick resigned as entrepreneur development and cooperatives minister over the attorney-general's appeal against certain parts of judgment grounds in the case involving Sabah's 40 per cent revenue entitlement. **By Sharanjit Singh**



Nurul Izzah Anwar