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## PM: I won't fall for Anwar's psy-ops tactic

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**SEBERANG PERAI:** The prime minister yesterday rejected Parliamentary Opposition Leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's request for a meeting on "transition of power", accusing him of playing a "psy-war".

Asked about the PKR de facto leader's statement earlier yesterday that he had asked for a meeting to discuss a smooth transition of power as he had enough MPs on his side, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi dismissed the claims that Anwar had more than 31 Barisan Nasional MPs to join Pakatan Rakyat.

"I don't think he has got the names. So there's no reason to meet him," Abdullah told a press conference at the Yayasan Budi Penyayang Malaysia in Kepala Batas. "It's just his psy-war, to get people to focus on him. This is his political game."

He said if Anwar had the names, he should reveal them, and let all Malaysians know who they were.

"They want to know whether their MP is running away or joining the party, which was not the intention of the voters. Let everybody know, let the voters know ... I will not meet him on an excuse like this."

He, however, said Anwar had asked for a meeting on general issues and not on "transition of power".

He also labelled Anwar's call for the BN government not to declare emergency or detain under the ISA any MPs who were crossing over as "crazy".

The premier earlier presented Hari Raya donations and hampers on behalf of the YBPM. Also present was his wife Datuk Seri Jeanne Abdullah, YBPM chairperson Nori Abdullah and Umno Youth deputy head Khairy Jamaluddin.

On the recent ISA detentions, Abdullah said he was not given prior information about them. He also said it was "okay" for there to be differing views by ministers on the detention of the *Sin Chew Daily* journalist who had reported former Bukit Bendera Umno division head Datuk Ahmad Ismail's alleged racist remark.

"Yes, I know they have their views," he said. "I have allowed people to say many things, to make their views publicly known. It's okay."

On Datuk Zaid Ibrahim's resignation as minister in the PM's Department, Abdullah said he accepted his resolve to resign, saying it took immediate effect.

"Zaid told me over the telephone that he could not continue. He has resigned. This is his firm choice."

On Zaid's assertion that he did not get support to carry out reforms, he said: "Whatever reason he wants to give, let him give his reason."

He said a minister had to face challenges, and must be patient. Zaid's replacement had not been decided, said Abdullah.