

Anwar belittles 1Malaysia logo on subsidised goods
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Opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim today belittled the government move to make it compulsory for 1Malaysia logo on subsidised goods as having minimal impact in a pro-BN vote swing, if any.

"(This means) election is close. The issue is, they put on the logo, the price must go down. If they put the logo and the price goes up, they will not get the vote," said the Permatang Pauh MP.

"(If anything) people will see the logo and know that the price will go up," Anwar quipped.

He was responding to the government's directive to suppliers that they will only enjoy subsidies on essential goods if they tag the 1Malaysia logo on their packaging.

Last night Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak defended the move.

"1Malaysia is not politics, it is about Malaysia," said Najib in a curt reply.

He was speaking to reporters after chairing the BN supreme council meeting at PWTC, Kuala Lumpur.

Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Deputy Minister Tan Lian Hoe announced on Feb 10 that three controlled items - flour, sugar and cooking oil - must have the 1Malaysia logo on its packaging to qualify for government subsidies.

The idea was to inform consumers that the products were subsidised by the government. This is supposed to be enforced from this month onwards.

Meanwhile, asked about criticisms levelled against him for his alleged remarks on supporting efforts to ensure Israel's security, Anwar dismissed it as an Umno-BN spin on his Asian Wall Street Journal Mumbai interview.

"They slander. They lied. They deleted my comments on the rights of Palestine," he said.

Anwar contended that the government-friendly media selectively reports on such news, and will not highlight meetings between Malaysian leaders and their Israeli counterparts, for example.

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