

Address more important issues before GST, gov't told

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By Ram Anand

Opposition Leader Anwar Ibrahim today said that his position opposing the Goods and Services Tax (GST) remains firm even if the tax is introduced in the Budget 2014 by the government.

"Why do we have GST? It is to increase revenue. We are saying address more important issues first such as corruption and wastage," Anwar said during a press conference at the PKR headquarters this morning.

NONEThere have been indications from the Finance Ministry that GST could be introduced in the next budget, albeit with a 4 percent tax rate.

"We will continue to oppose GST until those issues are resolved first," Anwar said.

He also said that while GST can increase the country's revenue, it would be done at the expense of the people.

"They say the government will get a revenue of RM27 billion (from GST). But from whom are you taking the money? It's from the people," Anwar said.

Despite indications from Finance Ministry officials about GST being included in the upcoming 2014 budget, Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak refused to confirm or deny this during a press conference yesterday at his office in Putrajaya.

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