

'PM gets new jet but rakyat get health care cut'

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Lembah Pantai MP Nurul Izzah Anwar has flayed Putrajaya for what she said is misplaced priorities over the country's expenditure.

She pointed out that Putrajaya had recently purchased a RM465 million private jet for use by Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak but at the same time, chose to slash RM120 million in funding for Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC).

Nurul Izzah cited a report in The Malaysian Insider portal about doctors' concern that the budget for UMMC, slashed from RM510 million to RM387 million, will affect the training of new doctors.

"This concern is also shared by patients, with some reporting that they are now receiving hospital bills, even though they were previously granted an exemption (from payment)," she said in a statement.

The PKR vice president also pointed out the cutback came amid rising cost of living, following the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

"Does the government emphasise more on the luxury of leaders, compared to the rakyat's quality of life?" he said.

She urged Putrajaya to readjust its priorities, stressing that healthcare was a universal right for the rakyat and not only for the wealthy.

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