

New industrial plan to be unveiled in two days, says PM

PUTRAJAYA: After the National Energy Transition Roadmap, which was unveiled on Tuesday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said a new National Industrial Master Plan will be presented soon.

"In two days, we will unveil the National Industrial Master Plan. This will not be an ordinary industrial plan but one that will propel Malaysia towards a high-tech industrial nation, spur digital transformation, and create jobs for thousands of youth," he said in his National Day address here yesterday.

"Malaysia should not be known for its glorious skyscrapers. Malaysia should be known for providing justice for all its people, including the underprivileged."

He added that all schools in the country will have reasonable basic facilities in October, saying that the basic infrastructure must be preserved and the existing ones must be appreciated.

Anwar then said that this will be part of the mid-term review of the 12th Malaysia Plan, which is slated to be tabled in the Dewan Rakyat in September.

"For me, this is more meaningful for the millions of parents and students than huge skyscrapers and landmarks."

He said the government would also continue to focus on ensuring reasonable wages to create a sustainable economy, adding that it would be unreasonable to bring in investments worth hundreds of billions of ringgit if wages remained stagnant.

"It is unreasonable for our workers to be paid wages at the same level as in the 1980s and 1990s," he said.

Despite facing economic constraints, Anwar said the government was drafting a change in the salary system and making adjustments for civil servants.

Malaysia, he said, has stagnated over the last 20 years after facing several problems, adding that the nation once had the strength to lift its dignity and economy.

"We can make the choice between creating unrest, doubting each other, and sowing political and racial hatred, or we can choose to say that enough is enough and use this time to come up with strategies and try our best to uphold the country's dignity," he said.

The 2023 National Day celebration, themed "Malaysia Madani: Tekad Perpaduan, Penuhi Harapan" (Determination in Unity, Fulfilling Hope), will take place in Putrajaya today.