

# PM: Unity govt's graft-free record is indisputable

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim is proud that the unity government has never been implicated in any corruption case in the past year that it was in power.

During a special interview "Setahun Bersama Kerajaan Madani: Tiwikrama Perdana Menteri", he said in the last one year of the Madani government, no reports had emerged of its leaders gathering wealth illegally.

He said corrupt practices had become systemic in previous governments.

"The young ones were never taught to hate corruption, though it was clearly mentioned in the *Al-Quran* and Sunnah.

"They (previous leaders) freely gave land and contracts to family members, I find it strange.

"The billions of ringgit which should be transferred to the people were given to their family members.

"There are parties too obsessed with defending such corrupt leaders.

"But we took over with a mandate. In this one year, not a single complaint of a leader gathering wealth illegally has been made.

"It is an indisputable record," he said on Tuesday night.

He said the government would launch a monitoring unit called Pemantau Madani to keep track of the government's announcements and implementation.

He said the unit would be placed under the Prime Minister's Department, and be respon-

sible for measuring the extent to which the government's implemented programmes.

"I do not want the announcement to sound amazing and interesting, but the implementation is bland or half of successful.

"God willing, we will implement it."

On another matter, Anwar said direct cash handouts to targeted parties were better than blanket subsidies.

He said present subsidies, which included basic necessities and fuel, were now enjoyed by 3.5 million foreigners, as well as the top 10 per cent of the wealthy groups.

"We want to avoid that."

As the country attempts to address the issue of supply shortages, which impacts the prices of goods, he said cash handouts known as Sumbangan Tunai Rahmah, would serve as a "top-up" assistance to the people.

Anwar also did not rule out adding more ministers as part of a cabinet reshuffle.

"Since it has been a year, we can reevaluate. There are people governing for 10 and 20 years, therefore, I believe that one year is still considered too early.

"The ministers should be given opportunities to improve, including myself as prime minister.

"But if there are adjustments that need to be made based on our one-year experience, we will do it, which also includes adding more (ministers) if needed," he said.