

# PM open to talks on Sultan's proposals

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Every view and proposal can be taken up for discussion without ignoring the Federal Constitution, system of parliamentary democracy and principles of constitutional monarchy, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said this includes the Sultan of Johor Sultan Ibrahim Almarhum Sultan Iskandar's suggestion that more responsibilities be given to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, including direct oversight of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) and Petronas.

"We can discuss it but the principles of the Constitution, parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy will be defended.

"So there shouldn't be any concern over statements and views, including from the Sultan of Johor. These views can be taken up for discussions but will not influence national policies and our principle of constitutional monarchy."

Anwar was speaking after launching an exhibition, "A Journey through Islamic Art" and "Alif Lam Ra: Contemporary Muslim

Calligraphy", held in conjunction with the 25th anniversary celebration of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia on Tuesday.

He was commenting on former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement which seemed to express disagreement with Sultan Ibrahim's suggestion regarding MACC and Petronas.

Anwar added that he had no problems with the views expressed by Mahathir.

"He (Mahathir) was just expressing his views, and we (can) discuss it." - Bernama