

PM's approval rating at 68 per cent survey shows

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's approval rating now stands at 68 per cent, two months after coming to power, a survey found.

Independent research firm Merdeka Centre also found that only 20 per cent of respondents were unhappy with the prime minister, and the remainder chose to remain neutral.

The survey to gauge the people's perception on the state of the country was conducted between Dec 26, 2022, and Jan 15, involving 1,209 respondents from various segments of society.

Malays made up 52 per cent of the respondents, 29 per cent were Chinese, seven per cent were Indians and six per cent comprised Muslim and non-Muslim Bumiputeras from Sabah and Sarawak.

The survey also found that 54 per cent of respondents were satisfied with the performance of the unity government, with 25 per cent saying otherwise.

Forty-eight per cent of respondents believed that the country was on the right track compared with only 20 per cent who said so in October 2022. Forty-three per cent of respondents said they were more confident in the country's economic performance in the years to come, an increase from the 23 per cent in October last year. Some 38 per cent were optimistic about their finances compared with 26 per cent in October.

Merdeka Centre said the "wait and see" attitude prevalent among respondents was due to their wish to see the government pay more attention to issues such as economic growth and cost of living.

On economic growth, 20 per cent agreed that the government needed to focus on it, while 19 per cent wanted the authorities to address cost of living issues.

Twelve per cent said the government should focus on attracting investments. Ten per cent said they wanted anti-corruption efforts to be continued, and nine per cent said the quality of education had to be improved.

The survey showed that 79 per cent of respondents were satisfied with the outcome of GE15.

In addition, 83 per cent agreed with Anwar's appointment as prime minister and 77 per cent said the unity government could create stability and inclusiveness.