

Madani - a humane concept

Tagline focuses on putting people, good values first

PUTRAJAYA: A country that believes in humanity and values like fair, just and effective governance - that is the Malaysia that Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim envisions.

Calling it the Malaysia Madani concept, the Prime Minister said it was to ensure an equitable economy as well as good governance where leakages are prevented and public funds are prudently and justifiably spent.

Anwar said he did not intend to introduce a new vision or build a new “monument”, but the Malaysia Madani concept would be for leaders and the people to realise their responsibility towards the country.

“Our aim is not just to strengthen the economy but also to ensure that the core values of ethics and morality that are accepted and propagated by all religions are practised,” he said when launching the concept at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre yesterday.

“I have great confidence that, with cooperation between the political leadership and the civil service, Malaysia will be able to regain its good name on the global stage.

“We do not want scandals, problems or racial and religious disputes.

“Malaysia must be known as a Madani nation that is prosperous, fair and rejects any form of cruelty towards any individual or race.

“It must be a nation that is known for its renewed spirit,” he said when unveiling the Malaysia Madani concept.

Madani is an acronym for a poli-

cy that embraces six core values - keMampanan (Sustainability), Kesejahteraan (Prosperity), Daya Cipta (Innovation), hormAt (Respect), keyakiNan (Trust) and Ihsan (Compassion).

Anwar said the unity government’s plans took into account the global realities of today where there were uncertainties, complexities, contradictions and chaos.

He said the Madani concept was part of a strategic framework that was comprehensive and could absorb the changes in these post-normal times.

“The time has come for us to stop measuring human progress and successes just on economic growth.

“Growth and development must be attained through a larger context, through the humane economy which prioritises the needs of the people, especially the poor and the marginalised.

“They must be released from the clutches of poverty in a capitalist system that breeds inequality in wealth and living standards,” the Prime Minister said.

He expressed confidence that a democratic market economy based on social justice could help achieve this goal.

The issue of a humane economy had been deliberated in his *The Asian Renaissance* book more than two decades ago.

“Fast forward to 2023, I believe the theme is still relevant and, in fact, imperative to achieve a sustainable economic growth that cares for the people and can save

the country,” he said.

On governance, Anwar said that while each political bloc that had governed the country had its own strengths, it was more important to eliminate the weaknesses.

He said bad management and the enrichment of small groups were the biggest weaknesses.

“I am confident that if there is good governance, we will be able to tackle the economic storm with confidence,” he said, adding that one way to stop leakages and mismanagement was for ministers to review the Auditor-General’s Report and rectify issues.

“If the political leadership and civil servants work hand-in-hand, between RM5bil and RM6bil of public funds can be saved, just from the Auditor-General’s report alone,” he said.

To boost the economy, the system and laws of the country must be upheld, with no favouritism or discrimination.

“If the government machinery functions optimally, and we resolve the issue of governance, God willing, the wheels of the economy will turn faster. We will see better and greater growth,” he said.

Also present at the launch were Deputy Prime Ministers Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, Cabinet ministers and senior civil servants.

Malaysia Madani - What it means

The Malaysia Madani concept - or 'civil society' - espoused by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim envisions a country which emphasises humanity and good values like fair, just and effective governance. The word Madani is an acronym derived from the six core values of the policy - keMampanan (Sustainability), Kesejahteraan (Prosperity), Daya cipta (Innovation), hormAt (Respect), keyakiNan (Trust) and Ihsan (Compassion). Among the points that were highlighted under the policy are:



Minorities will not be marginalised under any government policy. All policies will involve ethics and morals propagated by all religions.



The government will remain committed to resolving more issues under the MA63.



There will be good governance, with a concerted bid to prevent leakages and end weaknesses and poor management.



A humane economy, which looks into the needs of the people, especially the poor and marginalised, will be prioritised.



'Real progress' will be emphasised, looking at the effects on the people and not just economic growth and foreign investments.



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