

# Do not forsake people after acquiring power, leaders told

**IPOH:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim reminded leaders not to sideline or burden the people after gaining power.

He said the people should enjoy the blessings of the country and not get stuck in the drama of fights among leaders, including politicians.

"The important thing is that our country has to be saved. When I say Malaysia has to be saved, this is for the Malays, Chinese, Indians, Dayaks and Kadazans, not for the upper class.

"This country is rich, there are a lot of resources. But, why do the rich stay rich while there are many poor people? This is because the available money, such as that for contracts and projects have too many leakages."

He was speaking at the Tambun parliamentary constituency 2023 Ponggal celebration at Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan Tamil Klebang in Chemor yesterday.

Anwar, who is also Tambun MP, conveyed a message by singing

> Country needs to be saved for all races, including Dayaks and Kadazans, and not for the upper class: Prime minister

some lyrics from *Naan Aanaiyittal*, a song about power and the people, made popular by the late actor and former Tamil Nadu chief minister M.G. Ramachandran in a movie.

Anwar also said Malaysia needs to change to attract more investors to bring greater benefits to the people through job opportunities and economic growth.

He said he initiated the *Masyarakat Madani* concept for Malaysia because it is the common citizens' efforts to boost the nation's progress.

"In the past month and a half, I have seen the interest of foreign investors from China, India, the United States and Europe."

He said this would help to create jobs and good incomes for the people, Bernama reported.

"If there are no changes, then we will face major problems."

Anwar will embark on his first official visit to Singapore today, at the invitation of his Singapore counterpart Lee Hsien Loong.

The Malaysian Foreign Ministry said in a statement that Anwar would be meeting President Halimah Yacob and Lee during his maiden visit to the republic after being sworn in as Malaysia's 10th prime minister.

"The two prime ministers will witness the signing of an MoU to promote cooperation on data, cybersecurity and the digital economy as well as frameworks

on cooperation in the digital and green economies.

"The prime minister will also hold an engagement session with the Malaysian diaspora in Singapore."

Anwar will be accompanied by his wife Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail and his delegation will comprise Foreign Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir, Transport Minister Anthony Loke, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz, Communications and Digital Minister Ahmad Fahmi Mohamed Fadzil and other officials.

Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Abang Openg and Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Onn Hafiz Ghazi will also accompany him.

Singapore was Malaysia's second largest trading partner and the largest among Asean countries last year, with total trade amounting to RM367.53 billion, an increase of 29.4%, compared with the recorded value in 2021.