

## REFORM

# PM: We don't have much time to resolve economic issues

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia has limited time to resolve problems or challenges affecting its economy and bring the nation back on track, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, shared this on his Facebook page following a discussion with economic experts on the direction of the economy.

He said he understood that any reform not only required discipline and patience, but also confidence and courage to do something new, and make tough decisions for the benefit of the people and the nation.

"Nonetheless, the government will work hard to drive inclusive and sustainable growth.

"Economic growth is not merely about numbers, but must fulfil the people's needs and wants," he said.

The discussion on Friday was attended by former finance minister II Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani and former health minister Khairy Jamaluddin.

Others were Treasury secretary-general Datuk Johan Mahmood Merican, Economy Ministry secretary-general Datuk Nor Azmie Diron, Malaysian Institute of Economic Research chairman and board of directors member Dr Nungsari Ahmad Radhi, and Malaysian Inclusive Development and Advancement Institute (MINDA-UKM) director Professor Tan Sri Dr Noor Azlan Ghazali.

On the discussion, Anwar said the government was making continuous effort to obtain ideas and views on the economy.

The discussion also touched on new growth areas and ways to strengthen the investment ecosystem.

"All the views shared will be used to form the Madani Economic Narrative, which is being drafted to shape the nation's economic direction in the medium to long terms."

Khairy's presence had sparked a flurry of discussions and conjectures on his next political move.

Netizens also raised questions about the absence of Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli and wondered why Khairy was invited to participate in the discussion.

Khairy serves as a visiting senior fellow at the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute in Singapore.