

Improve efforts, Anwar tells enforcement agencies

SERDANG: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday reminded all enforcement bodies under the Home Ministry to improve their performance, apart from assisting the government in conducting a shift in administration governance.

He said the services by the groups should be able to help drive national economic growth and ensure fair distribution of the country's wealth.

"I have always called for improvement at our airports and borders in Cabinet meetings. We also had discussions at the National Economic Council with (Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi) as smuggling is still rife. We lose RM10 billion worth of diesel every year.

"This (RM10 billion) could be used to build universities, repair police and armed forces quarters and prisons. I am asking the

enforcement bodies to find ways to improve services with more effective operations," he said in his speech during a Madani Hari Raya event at the Malaysia Agro Exposition Park Serdang yesterday.

Also present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Home Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail and Tourism, Art and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Tiong King Sing.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, said reprimands do not mean no good had been done by the enforcement bodies, but it was rather only to drive them towards better efforts.

"The government appreciates the services of all enforcement agencies in this country. So far, the country is peaceful and the institutions are running well compared with some

countries. But we as humans must have the desire to do better and strive for excellence.

"(Even if) the reports received were all good, there is still room to improve. (Whether it is) in politics, careers, enforcement, immigration, prisons, police ... we have to do better," he said.

He added that all parties need to emulate the approach of the unity government through Malaysia Madani in bringing about change, especially involving a shift in governance.

"It is impossible if we have a new government with a new approach but there is no change. Corruption is still there. If it is still there, whoever becomes a minister, becomes richer and richer. So, I seek such cooperation so that the services of our comrades can bring about a shift in the service." - Bernama