

## MASTERY OF BAHASA MELAYU

# PM: NO COMPROMISE ON MALAY LANGUAGE

### Anwar defends stand as a constitutional obligation

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**D**ATUK Seri Anwar Ibrahim has slammed criticism of his insistence that Bahasa Melayu be mastered by Malaysians.

In defending his stance, he said he was merely implementing a constitutional obligation.

In his winding-up speech at the PKR congress yesterday, Anwar said it was a must to improve one's Bahasa Melayu proficiency as it was the official language of the nation.

"I will not compromise on the implementation of the Malay language.

"It is inconceivable that after being independent for so long, there is hesitation and stum-

bling in speaking our national language.

"I cannot accept that, (or people) still writing letters to the prime minister in English," he said, adding that there were still some quarters who accused him of being an extremist and nationalist.

The prime minister and PKR president had recently taken a shot at Malaysians who wrote letters to the government in English, saying that while proficiency in English should be increased, it must go hand in hand with mastery of Bahasa Melayu.

He had instructed civil servants to return any letters written to the government in English.

Meanwhile, PKR Youth yesterday lodged a report at the district police headquarters over a TikTok video, which has since been taken down, that offered money to anyone who assassinated the prime minister.

PKR Youth deputy chief Muhammad Kamil Abdul Munim had said the wing had lodged the report at 1.43pm.

"Earlier, the wing representative went to the Putrajaya police

headquarters to file a police report regarding a TikTok video in which user 'jaiadani89' issued threats against the prime minister and offered a reward of RM5 million to anyone who could assassinate him.

"There were many comments that not only threatened the safety of the prime minister but also touched on sensitive issues related to race and religion."

Without naming anyone, Kamil said such a threat stemmed from hate politics that were being endorsed by certain quarters.

"We frequently witness comments and statements that pose threats not only to the prime minister's security but also touch on the sensitivities of race and religion.

"If we do not take immediate action, it will lead to a radical and extreme situation, creating unfavourable conditions for our multicultural society."

Following the PKR Youth report, Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Razarudin Husain told Bernama that police had begun investigations into the matter.