

PM: DON'T CHALLENGE ROYALTY

NEW STRAITS TIMES 06 APR 2024 pg-3

This is especially so on 3R matters, says Anwar

AUDREY DERMAWAN
GEORGE TOWN
news@nst.com.my

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has issued a stern warning against challenging the royalty, especially on matters relating to race, religion, and the royal institution.

"I don't care who you are, what your position is, or which party you are from," he said,

"Don't threaten us if action is taken (against you), more so on matters related to the 3Rs."

Anwar said the royal institution was the pillar of the nation and the government would defend it.

"We will not compromise (on this matter)," Anwar said when asked about Umno Youth chief Dr Muhamad Akmal Saleh's two-hour detention in Kota Kinabalu earlier yesterday.

Anwar, however, said he did not believe Akmal was arrested, but was only called in to assist in investigations.

Earlier yesterday, Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Razarudin Husain confirmed that investigations against Akmal were underway.

Akmal, who is Merlimau assemblyman, is being probed for sedition. He is also being investigated under Section 233 of the Communications and Multimedia Act for improper use of network facilities.

Akmal has been at the forefront of calls for action and a boycott against KK Mart over the "Allah"



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim handing out bubur lambuk at Masjid Kubang Semang in Bukit Mertajam yesterday. With him is Penang Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow. BERNAMA PIC

socks controversy.

More recently, there were calls for his arrest over a social media posting showing him wielding a Japanese sword.

Anwar said it was important that people understood the government's stand on the socks controversy, as well as the king's decree on the issue.

"Don't use this issue or any other issue to instigate others," Anwar said.

Earlier, Anwar attended a briefing on Penang's development at Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow's office in Komtar.

On a separate issue, Anwar said the Malaysian government will expedite humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza through Rafah.

He said the aid was on standby there through assistance ren-

dered by the Egypt government.

"We are prepared in Rafah after President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi helped expedite the process.

"We will ensure that all aid are given before continuing with additional aid.

"It is Israel's responsibility to allow aid after betraying it for a long time.

"People are already starving," he said after performing Friday prayers at Masjid Al-Huda Sungai Ara in Bayan Lepas near here yesterday.

Earlier yesterday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office announced that Israel would allow temporary aid deliveries via its border with the northern Gaza Strip.

Israel would allow the temporary delivery of humanitarian aid

through Ashdod and the Erez checkpoint, drawing reference to a port about 40km north of Gaza and a land crossing.

The announcement came as international pressure mounted on Israel after it took responsibility for a strike that killed seven employees of United States-based charity World Central Kitchen.

On Wednesday, Malaysia had condemned Israel's targeted airstrike.

"We extend our deepest sympathies to the families and loved ones of the deceased, as well as to the nations mourning the loss of their citizens in this senseless attack against organisations and individuals devoted to providing humanitarian assistance to the besieged Gaza population," the Foreign Ministry had said