

'MINIMAL IMPACT FROM IRAN-ISRAEL CONFLICT'

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Govt will ensure security, welfare and wellbeing of all Malaysians, says PM

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Cinta Gaza Malaysia chief executive officer Muhammad Nadir Al-Nuri Kamaruzaman (right) says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's diplomatic touch was pivotal to facilitating his family's urgent departure from Gaza. PIC TAKEN FROM ANWAR'S FB PAGE

THE Iran-Israel conflict has so far had minimal impact on the Malaysian economy, said Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

The prime minister, in a statement on Monday, said despite this, the government would continue to closely monitor and take proactive measures to ensure the security, welfare and wellbeing of all Malaysians.

"To date, the impact on the Malaysian economy has been minimal, with the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange opening only slightly lower, reflecting regional trends.

"Nonetheless, the Madani government will continue to monitor this situation very closely and take proactive measures. The interests of the country will be our primary consideration."

Anwar said he had earlier chaired a National Security Council special meeting attended by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Defence Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Khaled Nordin, Home Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Zuki Ali and other senior government officials.

The purpose of the meeting, he said, was to further discuss the grave situation in the Middle East, building on discussions held on Monday.

He also said the government was pleased with the assurances given by the Iranian government that unless further attacked by the Israeli government, the drone attacks would be their only reaction.

"The launching of the drones by Iran is a legitimate act following the barbarous attack by the Israeli Zionist regime against the Iranian consulate in Damascus.

"We join all of the civilised

world to urge the Zionist Israeli regime not to aggravate an already extremely tense situation further.

"There are clear signs indicating that the world has no desire to see a worsening of the situation," he said.

Anwar added that the key to resolving the issue would be the just and immediate resolution of the inhumane situation in Gaza.

"Therefore, global attention must be devoted fully to it, with no distractions. There must be a durable ceasefire, which will enable the passage of humanitarian aid."

As such, Anwar added, Malaysia would contribute 100 containers of aid, which were expected to leave the country on April 27.

On Saturday, Iran launched drones and missiles against military sites on Israeli territory in response to an April 1 attack by Israel on Iran's consulate in Damascus.

Meanwhile, Bernama reported that Anwar had expressed relief that Cinta Gaza Malaysia chief executive officer Muhammad Nadir Al-Nuri Kamaruzaman had been reunited with his family after they were brought out of Gaza.

In a Facebook post, Anwar said he had conveyed his gratitude to Egyptian president Abdel Fattah Al Sisi and the Egyptian government for their cooperation in bringing out the family.

Nadir, in a post entitled "183 Long Days" uploaded to his Facebook and Instagram accounts, stated that Anwar was an important individual, whose role was central in facilitating his family's departure from Gaza.

He said he was contacted by the

prime minister's political secretary, Farhan Fauzi, a day before Hari Raya Aidilfitri and was asked to go to a designated location, along with Malaysian Consultative Council for Islamic Organisations chief executive officer Dr Ahmad Sani Abdul Alim Araby.

He said he was elated to discover that his family was waiting for him in a black vehicle at the location and could not hold back his tears, describing the mission to bring his family out of Gaza as a "crazy" mission.

"Quietly, the leader of our country (Anwar) reached out to people there.

"It's obvious his personal diplomatic touch was far more effective than other methods," Nadir said, adding that the entire mission took place swiftly, was well organised and smooth, even if it was wrought with uncertainty.

"The story will slowly be revealed, but I'm not the one who has the right to share it.

"The pivotal person in all of this is our prime minister himself!"

Nadir expressed hope that Malaysians would remain strong in their solidarity with the Palestinian people.

"To PMX (Anwar), PMO (the Prime Minister's Office), (Dr) Sani and everyone who made this happen, directly or through your prayers, our whole family wishes a million thanks. May Allah Himself repay your kindness," he said.

Nadir was reported to have shared on Monday that he decided to evacuate his family from Gaza after he had to rush his child to the hospital in the middle of the night several times because of breathing complications.