



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim examining an exhibit at the Malaysia Commercialisation Year Summit in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With him is Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Chang Lih Kang (on Anwar's left). BERNAMA PIC

DIFFERENT PRIORITIES

AVOID EXCESSES, PM TELLS PUBLIC BODIES

Don't act like private companies, says Anwar

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday reminded publicly funded organisations to not act like private companies and avoid "excesses" in their operations and programmes.

He said he supported recommendations in the Auditor General's Report for more thorough monitoring of these organisations.

"We must accept that organisations like Mranti (Malaysian Research Accelerator for Technology and Innovation) under the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry depend on public funds.

"To ensure the implementation of programmes, we want to make sure that there are no excesses in focus, and these organisations should not be treated the same as private entities, which sometimes prioritise not only business but also the interests of their board members and management," Bernama reported him as saying.

He said this when opening the Malaysia Commercialisation Year Summit at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

The summit was attended by Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Chang Lih Kang and his deputy, Datuk Mohamad Yusof Apdal.

Anwar added that management of these organisations should not be bound by procedures and frameworks and should be ready to explore new areas of expertise.

"Our greatness is not just compared with last year or 10 years ago.

"Our greatness is measured against what has been achieved by other countries," he said.

Speaking to reporters later, Anwar denied media reports of a cabinet reshuffle.

"I didn't hear it. Seriously, I've not heard about a cabinet reshuffle.

"It could happen after the elections, *Insyallah*," he said.

A portal quoted unnamed sources in a report about a possible cabinet reshuffle less than a year after the last one.

A PKR insider was quoted as saying that a minister from the party would either be reassigned or axed.

The source also said a menteri besar might be appointed a minister, a move that was said to have been considered during the last

cabinet reshuffle.

A DAP source was quoted as saying the reshuffle could take place at the end of this month, with a few deputy ministers being promoted.

The last reshuffle was in December last year, which saw the cabinet expanded from 29 ministers to 31.

In that reshuffle, DAP's V. Sivakumar was axed as human resources minister, but two politicians were returned to the cabinet: Amanah's Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkelly Ahmad as health minister, and Umno's Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani, who took up the plantation and commodities portfolio. Other ministers swapped portfolios.

Earlier yesterday, Anwar expressed his gratitude to the staff of Sultan Idris Shah Hospital in Serdang, Putrajaya Hospital and Kuala Lumpur Hospital for his good health.

"Thank you to all the caregivers, specialists and medical staff at Serdang Hospital, Putrajaya Hospital and Kuala Lumpur Hospital. *Alhamdulillah*, I am healthy," he said in a Facebook post.

On Sunday, Anwar underwent his annual health check-up, which was conducted by specialists at Sultan Idris Shah Hospital.

The Selangor Health Department said Anwar's health was at an optimal level.