

'NO RACE WILL BE MARGINALISED'

NEW PLAN TO SPUR BUMI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PuTERA35 will make nation a regional economic driver, says PM

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THE Bumiputera Economic Transformation Plan 2035 (PuTERA35) will serve as a massive shift to spur Bumiputera development and make Malaysia a regional economic driver, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, said that as the times had changed, the country needed a new plan to drive the Bumiputera agenda to greater heights.

"The country should be driven with a more convincing level of speed, but at the same time, must not leave anyone behind.

"The idea is that the economic drive should be done with the participation of all people without marginalising any ethnicity, tribe or territory across the country," he said during the launch ceremony of PuTERA35 here yesterday.

The involvement of all quarters, he said, was vital in developing the country, adding that "no role is too small".

He cited the example of the Covid-19 pandemic, where while doctors and nurses were key, those who played a role behind the scenes were also crucial.

"While acknowledging calls for faster progress, it is important to remain grounded in reality and ensure that this advancement does not marginalise any group."

Present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli, Plantation and Commodities Minister Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani, Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir and other cabinet ministers.

PuTERA35, bearing the theme



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim delivering his speech at the launch of the Bumiputera Economic Transformation Plan 2035 in Putrajaya yesterday. PIC BY MOHD FADLI HAMZAH

'Penyeretaan, Pemilikan dan Penguasaan Bumiputera yang lebih bermakna' (Meaningful Bumiputera Participation, Ownership and Mastery), was designed to enhance the value of Bumiputera contributions by fostering a more productive and integrated approach.

It aims to raise the status and dignity of Bumiputeras in line with the aspirations of the Madani Economy: Empowering the People initiative and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which will allow Malaysians to enjoy a better quality of life.

The plan is supported by three thrusts, 12 drivers and 132 comprehensive and ambitious initiatives designed to advance Bumiputera development and position Malaysia as a regional economic leader. The transformation plan aims to support Bumiputera growth and development, and

enhance their role in Malaysia's socio-economic progress. This includes ensuring that all segments of the Bumiputera community, including those from Sabah and Sarawak, as well as the Orang Asli, are resilient against future challenges.

PuTERA35 also seeks to boost Bumiputera participation in innovation, research and development, as well as to boost their presence as a skilled workforce.

Detailed programmes and projects for each initiative, covering short-, medium- and long-term goals, will be provided by the implementing agencies and coordinated by designated ministries.

Meanwhile, Anwar said PuTERA35 would not set aside the interests of other races.

"The Bumiputera-related policy is always an affirmative policy to think and reflect on the situation of injustice, but never to set aside the interests of Indian

children, Chinese children, let alone the children of Bumiputeras, Orang Asli or the natives of Sabah and Sarawak," he said.

He called on all quarters to end political enmity and squabbling over race and territories. He said the people should instead work towards finding solutions to these issues for the sake of national unity.

"Not many countries have achieved the success that Malaysia has. This isn't a matter only for the prime minister, ministers or state governments, but everyone, from fishermen to smallholders, both the government and the private sector.

"Thanks to a unified effort, we achieved a 5.9 per cent growth, far better than any Asian country."

He reminded institutions and officials managing the Bumiputera agenda to fulfil their duties diligently to achieve the intended goals.