

Govt initiative to promote AI literacy among public

KUALA LUMPUR: The government is serious about the country's digital transformation and wants to ensure that the general public is fully aware of its initiatives to promote digital and artificial intelligence (AI) literacy, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

"We have no choice but to get the general public to be fully aware of what I call digital literacy and AI literacy," he said after the launch of the AI Untuk Rakyat (AI for the People) programme at Universiti Putra Malaysia in Serdang yesterday.

Also present was Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli.

Anwar said the programme is targeted to reach one million users by the end of this year.

AI Untuk Rakyat is an online self-learning programme designed to enhance the understanding and

awareness of the general public about AI.

It was reported that Malaysia's digital sector is making a significant contribution of 23.2% to the nation's GDP, while the digital economy is slated to further boost its impact and is projected to contribute 25.5% to the economy by 2025 and create up to 500,000 jobs.

Anwar also called on civil servants and students to join the programme as soon as possible.

"This is an introduction to what digital technology and AI are all about and we have to compel students and civil servants to start joining the programme."

The AI untuk Rakyat programme was launched in collaboration with semiconductor chip manufacturer Intel, and users can register for it at www.ai.gov.my.



Anwar visiting a booth at an exhibition held in conjunction with the event in Serdang yesterday. -BERNAMAPIC

Anwar urged university vice-chancellors to ensure that all students in their respective institutions attend the four-hour programme on basic understanding of AI via the website.

He added that he wanted all directors-general of government agencies to submit their reports on AI literacy to their respective ministries within a month.

"The AI Untuk Rakyat programme is a cross-ministry, cross-departmental effort. It will be a huge loss for us if we do not make optimal use of it." - Bernama