

PROTECTING NATIONAL SECURITY

Maintain moral values and discipline, PM tells law enforcement personnel

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim wants members of the country's law enforcement agencies to have high moral values and discipline in carrying out their task of defending national security.

He said if good values and discipline are successfully imbued in every enforcement officer, the goal of raising the dignity of the country and its people can be achieved faster.

"We don't lack people who are good at talking — from the coffee shop to the Parliament. What we lack is people who have discipline and good values.

"For that reason, I urge all parties

(to) understand the agenda of change... if you want to raise the dignity of the people, the nation and the country, you cannot use the old methods," he said when speaking at a Rahmah session with Home Ministry staff at the Marang district police headquarters in Terengganu.

He urged all enforcement personnel under the ministry to change both mentally and spiritually, taking into account the great responsibilities they have.

In his speech, Anwar also announced an immediate allocation of RM1 million to repair 20 units at the police quarters Marang that were damaged.

"Next week, there will be RM1 million. I am asking the ministry and police to take immediate action.

"It is crucial that the issue be resolved quickly so that we can bring in another 20 families to live there.

"We are telling the police to defend the country and fight crime. But their houses are damaged... so I say we solve this problem as quickly as possible," he said.

The prime minister also said that for other police quarters in need of repairs, the ministry would be required to put forward recommendations.

Depending on the ministry's financial capacity, he gave the assur-

ance that desperate cases would be resolved this year.

Earlier at the Cypark Merchang Solar Hybrid Power launch ceremony, Anwar said the federal government's total expenditure for Terengganu this year had risen to RM7.23 billion.

The amount, which included management expenses for federal agencies and development projects, exceeded the RM5.99 billion federal allocation to the state in 2022.

The prime minister dismissed claims that the allocation for Terengganu had been reduced or that the state had been neglected by the federal government.

"Also unprecedented is the leadership of the federal government, (including) the prime minister, deputy prime minister, senior ministers, KSN (chief secretary to the government) and all sitting together with the state government to discuss the priorities of the states.

"This is because sometimes the priority considered in Putrajaya is not the same as the state's priority, so we modify it after hearing (from) the state government," he said.

However, Anwar said priority should be given by all parties, including the state government, to eliminate hardcore poverty.

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