



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim (centre) at the presentation of resolutions at the closing of the National Cooperative Congress 2024 in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

# GOVT SEEKS SOLUTIONS TO COST OF LIVING WOES

**People's livelihoods remain a government priority, says PM**

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**T**HE government will continuously seek solutions to the rising cost of living and strive to keep prices of goods in check, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said.

He said despite positive developments in the country's economic growth and the low inflation and unemployment rates, people were still facing rising cost of living issues.

"I'm not satisfied as we are still facing cost of living issues.

"The prices of goods are affecting (people's) livelihoods," he said in his speech at the closing of

the National Cooperative Congress 2024 here yesterday.

He said the government had implemented various initiatives to help the people, including the Rahmah Cash Aid which benefited nine million people with a total allocation of RM10 billion.

He said in October, he will announce the new remuneration scheme for civil servants, which would see the highest increase in the country's history.

Meanwhile, Anwar, at the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia's 62nd anniversary gala dinner on Thursday, said while Malaysia was politically stable, the country should not be lulled into complacency.

"With the stability we currently enjoy, we must seize the opportunity to bring about change, initiate institutional reforms and implement unpopular policies.

"These steps are crucial to ensure our country's success.

"Among the unpopular policies are adjustments to electricity tariffs and diesel rationalisation. Nevertheless, they are necessary

actions that must be undertaken.

"We cannot expect to succeed without taking tough measures. To safeguard the nation and prevent massive leakages by the billions, we cannot manage the country like we used to.

"We must emphasise good governance and be assured that we will do whatever is necessary to make Malaysia succeed and emerge as a great nation."

Anwar also called on the private sector to work with the government and emphasised teamwork to ensure the nation's success, especially in economic development and investments.

"I have high expectations and hope, not only from the government, but from the private sector as well.

"I appeal for your ongoing support, expertise and suggestions, as well as collaboration as a unified team, to ensure Malaysia's success.

"We have the capacity and resources. Despite having lost some 'time', we should be able to make progress and ensure our country's success."