

# The crown symbolises unity

## Royal institution a pillar of strength, says the Prime Minister

**PETALING JAYA:** The institution of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong is a pillar of strength for the country and its diverse population, while ensuring equality and justice for all Malaysians in line with the principles of a Constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy, says Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

The Prime Minister said the Yang di-Pertuan Agong's role is also to serve as the head of Islam, which is the religion of the federation, to strengthen the position of the Malay language, and defend the rights and privileges of the Malay and bumiputra communities.

"Your Majesty, the institution of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong is the nation's crown and ... capable of binding the spirit of unity and honoured as a symbol of virtue.

"Therefore, on behalf of the government and all citizens, I pledge unwavering loyalty to Your Majesty and pray that Allah Almighty bestows Your Majesty and the Royal Family with His grace and mercy," he said while congratulating and pledging loyalty to Sultan Ibrahim on His Majesty's installation as the 17th Yang di-Pertuan Agong at Istana Negara yesterday.

The Prime Minister said the institution of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong is the binding force of unity and solidarity and is a beacon of kindness for all races.

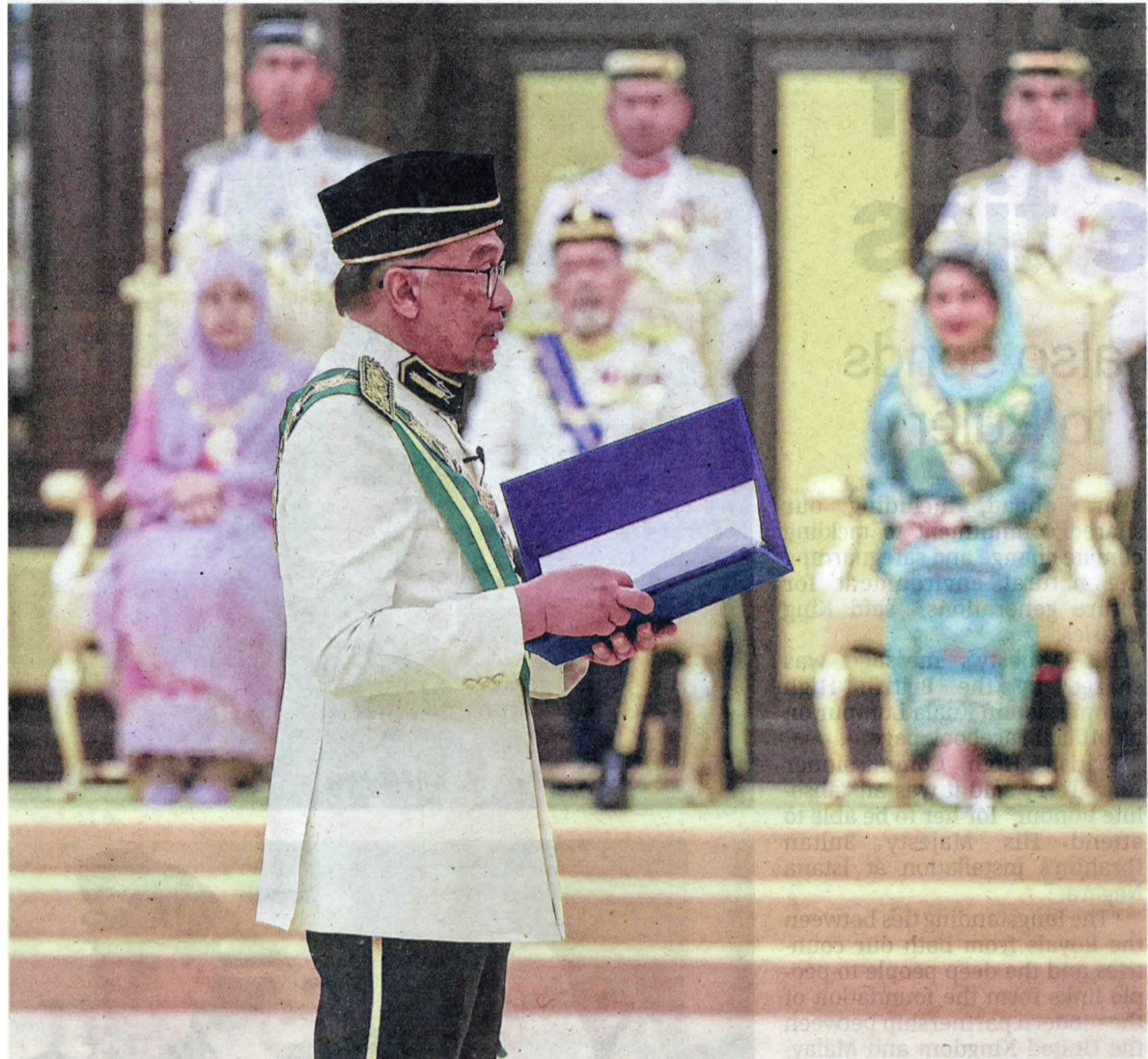
"Indeed, the installation of His Majesty marks a historic event that, God willing, will be able to raise the dignity of the country.

"The government and people pray to Allah that Their Majesties will always be blessed by His grace and guidance, remain steadfast on the throne, and always be in good health," said Anwar.

The Prime Minister also said that the King plays a vital role in ensuring strong ties between Malaysia and other countries, including Asean and Islamic nations and others at the international level.

At the same time, Anwar also reaffirmed the Federal Government's commitment to continuing all efforts to ensure the wellbeing of the people in this country.

"Your Majesty, under your leadership, the government and the



**Royal allegiance:** Anwar congratulating and pledging loyalty to His Majesty Sultan Ibrahim, King of Malaysia, at Istana Negara. - Bernama

people will navigate the challenges of the global economy through new sustainable initiatives to ensure the welfare of the people.

"Firm measures outlined in the Madani Economic framework have generated an impressive growth rate of 5.8% for the second quarter of this year.

"This fresh momentum is further strengthened by trade values amounting to RM1.396 trillion, while new investment approvals total RM83.7bil for the first quarter of this year, which is 13% higher than the RM74.1bil last year," said Anwar, who is also the Finance Minister.

He said the government would also continue to prioritise education and health reforms by enhancing the quality and standard of infrastructure as well as

English language proficiency.

"Efforts will continue with approaches emphasising educational and health reforms by improving high-quality infrastructure, English language proficiency, and exploring new fields such as artificial intelligence, digital transformation, and energy transition," he added.

In its efforts to bring about reforms and transformations, the government will remain consistent in emphasising noble values, strengthening morals, and reinforcing national identity while focusing on enhancing love for and loyalty to the Federal Constitution and Rukun Negara, said Anwar.

"Thanks to the cooperation of all government agencies and departments, efforts to eradicate hard-

core poverty will be realised by the end of this month. The government will also continue to prioritise issues related to public housing and the cost of living," he said.

Sultan Ibrahim was installed as the 17th Yang di-Pertuan Agong in a ceremony steeped in Malay royal customs and traditions at the Throne Room of Istana Negara yesterday, marking a historic and significant event for the nation.

His Majesty took the oath and signed the instrument of office as the 17th Yang di-Pertuan Agong on Jan 31.