

Anwar urges collaboration for net zero goals

PM calls for active participation in climate action and ESG efforts

KUALA LUMPUR: Achieving net zero requires a collective effort and a shift in mindset because adopting environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices is more than just regulatory compliance, says Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

According to the Prime Minister, it is crucial to recognise that achieving net zero requires a collaborative effort involving the government, the private sector and Malaysians themselves.

"This is where I believe the formation of the Asia ESG Positive Impact Consortium (A-EPIC) is timely where it can leverage the prowess of three media groups to facilitate collaborative action between stakeholders, businesses and the public.

"Here, we ought to remember that embracing ESG practices transcends mere regulatory compliance. It necessitates a shift in

mindset to embrace the principles of environmental stewardship, social responsibility and governance excellence," Anwar said in his keynote address at the launch of the A-EPIC yesterday.

He urged all stakeholders, including businesses, civil society and individuals, to actively participate in achieving a sustainable and secure future for the next generation.

"Together, we can create a powerful synergy that drives meaningful change.

"Let us embark on this journey with a shared sense of purpose and optimism," he said.

Anwar said the world is facing many environmental challenges such as hotter temperatures, severe storms and increased droughts.

As a response, Anwar said many governments in the world have agreed to cut emissions by



Rapt attention: Attendees listening to SMG group chief executive officer Chan Seng Fatt's address during the Asia ESG Positive Impact Consortium (A-EPIC) launch in Kuala Lumpur. - GLENN GUAN/The Star

using various measures to foster green innovation, catalyse sustainable economies and chart courses towards renewable energy transitions.

"In Malaysia, we have taken a progressive stance towards decarbonisation and the larger sustainability agenda," he said.

"In fact, the concept of Madani, the country's ethos for development, places 'sustainability' as one of its seven core tenets."

Anwar said Putrajaya is committed to embedding ESG principles in its governance and ensuring a sustainable and prosperous

future for the next generation.

He also said the government has implemented various multi-faceted policies aimed at reducing carbon emissions, promoting social equity, creating new growth opportunities in the green economy and ensuring transparent governance.

"To this effect, substantial funds have been allocated for renewable energy, sustainable agriculture and green transportation, signalling the government's commitment to reducing the country's carbon footprint and promoting sustainable practices,"

added Anwar.

The A-EPIC was launched by Star Media Group, Media Group of Kompas Gramedia (KG Media) and the Inquirer Group of Companies yesterday at the Sime Darby Convention Centre.

This cross-border alliance aims to collectively impact 123 million people in the region.