

# No govt interference in socks issue probe: PM

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The government is not interfering in any investigation related to the issue of the sale of socks bearing the word *Allah* by the KK Super Mart branch in Bandar Sunway, Petaling Jaya, recently.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said police have a free hand to conduct the investigation and the issue is not something that can be resolved through actions taken by any group.

"We leave it to professional investigation but at the same time, the government remains steadfast that there is no compromise on such actions, especially involving Islam, the federal religion in this country.

"Not only Islam, but also insulting any other race and religion, there is no compromise. We want to save the country and need firm action to ensure that such actions do not recur."

He was speaking at the 217th Police Day celebration at the Police Training Centre here yesterday.

Also present were Home Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail, Deputy Home Minister Datuk Seri Shamsul Anuar Nasarah, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Zuki Ali and Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Razarudin Husain.

Anwar also urged the police leadership and all members of the force to continue working with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission to combat corruption



Anwar being greeted by police officers during the event in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. - BERNAMAPIC

firmly and courageously.

"I urge you to eradicate corruption to save country and race. Let us not betray this trust although it is not easy. When corruption becomes systemic, it will erode the entire essence of the members, and it requires skill and strength to fight in this field.

"Let us remember the warning of the 3Cs by former prime minister Tun Abdul Razak in 1961, namely Communism, Corruption,

Communalism. There was a mention of corruption. In 1961, our leaders already saw it, apart from the almost extinct communists. In 2024, we are still fighting the issue of corruption."

He also advised the police force to continue to enhance their integrity.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, said he has instructed the Finance Ministry to facilitate processes involving the upgrading of premises and housing for

police personnel.

"We talk about the police needing to fight against digital issues and commercial crime, but their buildings are 20 to 30 years old, with outdated facilities and offices 30 years behind in terms of facilities. That is why we are now focusing on police housing and offices.

"I allow the Home Ministry to expedite any tender processes. We will try our best to improve it." - Bernama