

DIVERSITY

Madani govt serves all races equally, says Anwar

IPOH: The Madani government serves all races equally, even minorities, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Anwar said the unity government would not compromise in its efforts to make Malaysia a great nation, with diverse races and religions.

"Yesterday, I had a large Islamic gathering attended by tens of thousands of people in Perlis.

"Today, I am joining the Vaisakhi celebration. It is not wrong because while we bring the spirit of our respective religions, we must also carry the quality of humanity.

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He said this when speaking at the Perak Vaisakhi Day open house at Stadium Indera Mulia here yesterday.

Anwar said he had approved an allocation of RM200,000 for the welfare of the Sikhs in the state.

Anwar, who was heading for Kedah after the event, said he would serve all Malaysians even if they resided in opposition-controlled states.

"I have covered Kelantan and Perlis. This (yesterday) afternoon, I will be in Kedah to

join the menteri besar and state government to look at water supply problems, flood mitigation and poverty issues.

"When I mention poverty, I don't look at race. In states where there is hardcore poverty, I say we



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim greeting attendees at the Perak Vaisakhi Day open house at Stadium Indera Mulia in Ipoh yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

must help," he said.

He said certain small factions in society were beginning to sow the seeds of discord and intolerance, and the people must remain united to thwart their efforts.

He said although Malay Bumiputeras were the majority, Islam was the religion of the federation and Malay was the official language, people must stand together to protect the rights of every Malaysian.

"And respect all faiths and denominations. That's how we are.

"The majority of us have decided to make Malaysia a strong and formidable force, economically and culturally. And we will continue to do so." **Bernama**