

Anwar: No Israeli ship docked in Malaysia

PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has denied rumours that a ship operated by Israeli shipping company ZIM was allowed to dock in the country.

This was following a news report by portal MalaysiaNow on May 3, which claimed that cargo ship *ZIM Rotterdam* docked at Port Klang on April 29 before departing for Shantou Port in China.

The report said this was based on their checks via Marine Traffic, an application that gives real-time information on ship movements worldwide.

Anwar said the person who allowed Israeli ships to enter was former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"No, we do not allow (Israeli ships into the country). We have banned them.

"Remember, the one who allowed the Israeli ship to dock in 2002 was Dr Mahathir when he was prime minister and he gave all kinds of excuses.

"They continued to dock here until my cabinet and I banned them. That is our stand, we will not allow them to dock here."

In December last year, the government banned ZIM from docking its ships at any Malaysian port.

Anwar said the government had also decided not to accept any ship flying the Israeli flag to dock in the country and would not allow any ship en route to Israel from loading cargo at Malaysian ports.

At an event in Petaling Jaya later, Anwar urged religious leaders to play a more assertive role in promoting justice amid public

frustration over political discord.

He emphasised the need for religious leaders to uphold moral principles and advocate for justice.

He called upon religious leaders to lead by example and foster unity among their followers.

"Devoid of moral precepts, conscience and the meaning of justice, they can talk at the top of their voice about democracy and human rights.

"We don't know what to believe anymore. So, let the religious leaders take their place.

"You may be a Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim or Christian leader, but justice remains justice.

"No religion condones or allows the perpetration of injustice and abuse against anyone," he said at the International Conference of Religious Leaders.