

# PM: T15 DEFINITION NOT FINALISED

Income threshold might be changed to top 10pc of earners, says Anwar

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**T**HE government has yet to finalise the threshold of the top 15 per cent (T15) of earners who may be excluded from certain subsidies next year.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday said the government might even change the subsidy exclusion threshold to the top 10 per cent of earners.

He also denied claims that the T15 would include households earning RM12,000 and above.

"Some are upset because it's T15... Who said T15 is RM12,000? It hasn't been decided because we want to see if T15 can afford it.

"If they cannot afford it, we might make it T10, or raise the income threshold for T15 to something higher than RM12,000, possibly RM15,000 or RM18,000 a month.

"Some among them (the T15) are earning RM100,000 or even RM1 million a month. Do we want to defend that?

"If their income is low, we will take it into consideration as we do not want to burden the people.

"The important thing is that at least 85 per cent of Malaysians would not be affected," he said.

Anwar was speaking at the Perak PKR Convention at the Kinta Riverfront Hotel here.

Present were Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Saarani Mohamad, state DAP chairman Nga Kor Ming, PKR vice-president Chang Lih Kang and Parti Amanah Negara vice-president Datuk Seri Dr Mujahid Yusof Rawa.

When tabling the 2025 Budget on Oct 18, Anwar said subsidies would be gradually reduced for the T15, with the savings used to improve boarding schools and public universities.

On Oct 21, Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli said the definition of T15 was being refined.

Rafizi, however, confirmed that the T15 would not be solely de-



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim visiting a durian orchard in Ulu Kongsor in Padang Rengas, Perak, yesterday. The orchard, developed by the community, offers 13 campsites and recreational facilities for the public, PIC FROM ANWARS X ACCOUNT

finied by gross household income but also by factors like locality and financial commitments.

On another matter, Anwar, who is PKR president, said the party's political bureau and leadership council meeting on Saturday had been told that the party's polls should not wait for the next general election.

PKR's last election was in 2022, and the term of its officeholders will end next year.

He said PKR needed to build the next generation of leaders.

"We must consider expediting party elections, but not with the previous disorder and chaos. It should follow more precise regulations.

"We are studying this, but the decision is to expedite the election."

He said the meeting affirmed PKR's cooperation with Umno and Barisan Nasional.

Earlier, Anwar, who is Tambun member of parliament, attended a community engagement event in Padang Rengas.

He reminded village heads not to misuse funds provided by the government through the Sejati Madani initiative.

The initiative, announced in the 2025 Budget, would see villages nationwide receive between RM50,000 and RM100,000 to carry out projects for the benefit of the local economy.

"Some are buying tractors, some boats, and others drones for

agriculture, but the decision should be made by village representatives to boost the economy," he said.

Anwar said he had also instructed district officers and the Prime Minister's Implementation Coordination Unit to monitor these funds.

He said 15,000 households had been lifted out of extreme poverty this year and the government aimed to help another 65,000 families by the end of the year.

"Spending to help the poor reaches tens of billions of ringgit. There are still poor people, so when I took on the responsibility as prime minister, I asked for a list.

"How many people in Malaysia fall into the category of extreme poverty?"

"Extreme poverty means not having enough money to buy milk for children, unable to buy school uniforms, sometimes not having enough to eat.

"I can't sit comfortably as prime minister and let people live like that. So, I requested the list, and we have to put an end to extreme poverty within the year.

"Last year, we resolved 161,000 (households in poverty). How was it resolved? We provided them with aid.

"In 2024, another 80,000 new names appeared. This year, we've resolved 15,000, and we aim to finish by the end of this year," he said.