

Not right time for GST

KUALA LUMPUR: The government will only implement the Goods and Services Tax (GST) if the minimum income threshold is at RM3,000-RM4,000, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Currently, the minimum monthly wage in Malaysia is RM1,500.

Anwar said GST would help to expand the government's coffers with higher revenue collection.

However, he said he believes that the poor should not be burdened with such a tax system.

"I agree, GST is the most transparent and efficient tax system.

"But my view is, give it some time, some years, to make sure that the income threshold increases," he said at the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry's 78th Annual General Meeting yesterday.

Anwar said the implementation of GST has been an ongoing issue for decades, even during his time as finance minister in the 1990s. - Bernama



Anwar and Chambers president Senator Tan Sri Low Kian Chuan (right) at the AGM in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. - **BERNAMAPIC**