

'RESISTANT TO MISCONDUCT'

'PUBLIC-PRIVATE PLANS NEED TIGHT CONTROLS'

PM says this partnership must be governed by firm principles

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim launched the Public-Private Partnership Master Plan 2030 (Pikas 2030), which he says must be governed by firm, resolute and uncompromising principles.

He said privatisation initiatives must prioritise three areas: wages, housing and the education of workers' children.

"When we first initiated privatisation, we made significant progress, but often overlooked the foundational framework and the nation's broader direction.

"This is why Pikas projects must adopt a governance approach that is stringent and resistant to misconduct,

"We must also consider the families of the company's workers, who have the capacity to build the company, meaning wages, housing and education must be aligned with the company's capabilities," Anwar said at the launch.

Pikas 2030 is a strategic plan to provide a robust and sustainable public-private partnership (PPP) landscape to drive the nation's prosperity.

The plan under the Prime Minister's Department Public-Private Partnership Unit (Ukas) is aimed at strengthening governance and project management through a public-private partnership approach.

Anwar said since the implementation of PPP in 1981, and during his tenure as deputy prime minister and finance minister in 1991, various plans had been drawn up, but much remained to be improved in terms of governance.

He said while the majority of 510 PPP projects implemented followed stringent methods, some had failed to adhere to guidelines, leading to weaknesses.

"The contribution of PPPs is not in question.

"For example, the contribution



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim speaking at the launch of the Public-Private Partnership Master Plan 2030 in Cyberjaya yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

of more than RM50.5 billion to the gross domestic product and the creation of more than 600,000 jobs — these are impressive and commendable figures.

"But these numbers alone cannot captivate us or elevate this nation to a developed status. These figures are only the beginning."

Ukas said through the plan, targets that would serve as benchmarks for success had been set.

"Through PPP projects, the government is expected to see an increase in private investment to RM78 billion, a GDP contribution of RM82 billion and the creation of 900,000 jobs by 2030.

"To ensure the achievement of these goals, Pikas 2030 is built on four pillars and 17 initiatives.

"The plan represents the government's efforts to strengthen governance in the implementation of PPP projects."

To achieve the goal, Ukas said, the government would prioritise the implementation of PPP project proposals through competitive bidding via the Request for Proposal process.

"The process will boost competition, innovation and service quality, and provide the best value to the government and the public.

"New PPP models — such as Redevelop/Regenerate- Operate-Transfer and Build-Redevelop/Regenerate-Operate-Transfer

— will also be introduced."

Meanwhile, Anwar said Malaysia had received recognition from the United States for its cooperation in facilitating investment by aircraft manufacturer Boeing in the country.

"Coincidentally, this (yesterday) morning, I received a letter from the US secretary of commerce (Gina Raimondo) expressing appreciation for our cooperation, which has enabled them to invest through Boeing in Kedah.

"This is because they have confidence in our policies, even though there are occasional concerns about a slight shift in our foreign policy.

"I emphasised that our independent and sovereign foreign policy, like Malaysia's, should remain free.

"Some refer to 'centrality' as the cornerstone of our foreign policy, taking a more pragmatic approach," he said.

He said Malaysia was fortunate to receive greater recognition from foreign nations compared with before.

"While we are engaging with China due to its strong capabilities and its recent developments with Russia in space, energy and nuclear technology, we continue to maintain strong ties with our traditional friends, including Asean, Europe and the US," he said.