

PM TO ADDRESS DOWNGRADE BY IMF

**Bank Negara,
Treasury will also
review revised 2025
GDP growth forecast
says Anwar**

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will deliver a comprehensive statement in Parliament on May 5 regarding the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) recent downgrade of Malaysia's 2025 economic growth forecast.

"I will give a complete statement in Parliament on May 5," he said after the Customs Department's Hari Raya Aidilfitri open house yesterday.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, said the government had tasked Bank Negara Malaysia and the Treasury Department with reviewing the revised forecast.

On Wednesday, the IMF, in its April World Economic Outlook titled *A Critical Juncture amid Policy Shift*, downgraded Malaysia's real gross domestic product growth forecast for 2025 to 4.1 per cent from 4.7 per cent previously. The fund also projected growth of 3.8 per cent in 2026.

Anwar stressed that the revision was not exclusive to Malaysia and reflected broader global trends.

"This is a global revision — the United States, China and most countries saw downward adjustments. It's a slight dip but it's not isolated to us," he said.

The IMF also trimmed its global growth forecast for 2025 to 2.8 per cent, down from 3.3 per cent projected in January.

Among Malaysia's regional peers, Indonesia's forecast was revised to 4.7 per cent from 5.1 per cent, the Philippines to 5.5 per cent from 6.1 per cent and Thailand to 1.8 per cent from 2.9 per cent.

The IMF attributed the global downgrade to major policy shifts, heightened geopolitical tensions and uncertainty in global trade — factors it said continued to test the world economy's resilience.

Meanwhile, Bank Negara governor said Malaysia would need to mark down its growth forecast of 4.5 per cent to 5.5 per cent for the year due to trade and tariff uncertainties.

Datuk Seri Shaik Abdul Rasheed Abdul Ghaffour said the country was, however, in no rush

to revise its forecast and would see how the global trade situation played out.

On another matter, Anwar has urged collective action on climate change, saying the responsibility could not rest solely on the government.

"Protecting the environment requires cooperation from all parties, including the private sector, government agencies and the

public," he said in a Facebook post after chairing the Climate Action Council meeting.

He said the United Kingdom and China had demonstrated the effectiveness of strong climate policies and legislation.

He said that such measures, like Malaysia's proposed National Climate Change Bill, could generate re-

turns and also address the impacts of climate change.

Malaysia, he said, would continue refining its policies and legal frameworks to align with the Constitution and state powers, ensuring climate action was carried out at all levels.

"This is crucial to ensure our continued commitment to the Paris Agreement for a sustainable future."

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**DATUK SERI ANWAR
IBRAHIM**
Prime minister