

# 'Prevent exploitation by tackling issues effectively'

**PUTRAJAYA:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has reminded all parties, including civil servants, to address national issues effectively to prevent them from being exploited by irresponsible individuals.

He emphasised that ongoing matters must be handled properly and warned against sensationalising issues raised on social media for personal or political gain.

"We are sometimes dragged into issues, especially those circulating on social media or the media, which thrive on sensationalism. As a result, small matters that could be resolved calmly are blown out of proportion.

"It's as if war is about to break out - the temple issue, the balloon (seller) issue - when, in fact, these can be managed with care. That's why I suggest we should not leave room for exploitation," he said during the monthly staff assembly at the Prime Minister's Department yesterday.

Anwar stressed that certain individuals continue to exploit sensitive matters without considering the public interest, often politicising issues unnecessarily.

"Some people act without thinking. They disregard the public interest. For them, everything must be politicised and punished," he said.

Referring to the recent relocation of the Sri Pathrakaliamman Temple in the capital, Anwar said the *Madani* government had resolved the issue peacefully and respectfully, showing consideration for all communities.

"Our country is diverse, with people of various races and religions. Islam is the religion of the Federation and its strength is undisputed. Our decisions must be grounded in clear principles," he added.

The temple dispute near Jalan Masjid India, Kuala Lumpur, was resolved when the temple management agreed to relocate to a new site.

Anwar also reminded all ministries and government departments to remain vigilant on issues involving integrity, corruption and abuse of power.

"Don't take it lightly or ignore it. There are still reports of negligence, leakages and corruption. That is why leadership across departments and ministries must remain alert. We aim to protect the people and elevate the nation," he said.

He assured that the *Madani* government remains committed to leading the country effectively and restoring Malaysia's standing.

- Bernama