

OPPOSITION-LED STATES

PM rejects cruelty claims on allocations

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has dismissed claims of cruelty and discrimination, saying his government has increased allocations for opposition-led states.

For about four minutes, Anwar explained why calling the government “cruel” was unfair.

“Even though some accuse us of discrimination, that we are cruel... when we look at the numbers, the allocations for Kelantan, Terengganu, Perlis, and Kedah have increased.

“It’s higher than when they were in power.

Anwar said: “Do not say that we are cruel.

“Do not say we don’t provide

allocations because the allocations have increased.”

He was speaking while answering questions during Prime Minister’s Question Time yesterday.

He also said he had given RM1 billion to the Muda Agricultural Development Authority (Mada) for the first phase and had expedited the process to provide such allocations.

He said the state government withdrew allocations for Sekolah Agama Rakyat in 2003, while the federal government reinstated them in 2022.

He jokingly said: “The cruel ones are those who cancelled the allocations — yet they’re the ones being praised.”