



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim speaking during the Finance Ministry's monthly assembly in Putrajaya yesterday, NSTP PIC BY MOHD FADLI HAMZAH

'CAPABLE AND QUALIFIED'

# PM: NO ISSUE WITH KUMAR AS CIO CHIEF

**Malay representation in govt agencies not under threat, says Anwar**

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**D**ATUK Seri Anwar Ibrahim has dismissed claims that Malay representation in the government and its agencies is under threat.

Speaking in response to opposition claims, the prime minister said the appointment of Datuk M. Kumar as Bukit Aman Criminal Investigation Department (CID) director did not threaten Malay representation.

"Look at the CID. It's 90 per cent Malay. The chief is Indian, but I see no issue with it. If they are capable and qualified, let them do the job.

"The inspector-general of police is still Malay, the deputy is still Malay... for me, that's not an issue."

Kumar took over from Datuk Seri Mohd Shuhaily Mohd Zain as federal CID director on Aug 8.

Separately, Anwar said the government had always been fair and transparent in providing allocations, ensuring no community was sidelined.

"If people ask why I'm focusing on the Indian community, I'll say this: although their numbers are small, we must not be like certain countries where minorities are

pushed aside.

"We do not want that," he said.

He added that racial discourse and attempts to stoke division would remain constant in a multiracial nation like Malaysia, but harmony and equality must be safeguarded.

"There should be no tyranny by the majority or the minority."

Anwar also acknowledged the significant contributions of Chinese Malaysians to the nation's economy, saying their role must be recognised when shaping government policies.

He said government schemes such as the Government Guarantee Scheme for businesses were not racially biased, but reflected the communities most active in business and finance — in this case, Chinese Malaysians.

"We don't pick them because they're Chinese, but coincidentally, they are the ones who dominate and contribute most to the economy.

"I am not ashamed to say this, as they are the largest contributors to our country's economy and growth," he said at the Finance Ministry's monthly assembly.

Anwar said assistance to other communities, including Malays and Indians, would continue to be channelled according to need, particularly to address poverty and education gaps.

"For Mitra (Malaysian Indian Transformation Unit), the allocations were increased by RM20 million.

"There are programmes that used to cater specifically to Bumiputeras, but allocation for this has now reached RM50 million to

extend its reach to other races.

"Funds also go into education and training programmes, including the TVET specialised training in China, with about 150 Indian youths involved.

"This shows our approach is based on needs, not race.

"For example, the Indian community is not only a minority, but they also form the poorest group among the poor.

"So we must address this, not because they are Indian, but because of their socioeconomic reality."

Anwar made the remarks following claims that the government had sidelined the Indian community.

During the Prime Minister's Question Time in Parliament on Tuesday, he had said various forms of assistance were provided beyond Mitra.

He had said allocations for the Indian community were channelled comprehensively through multiple ministries and not solely concentrated under Mitra, which receives an annual RM100 million allocation.

Meanwhile, on the Bumiputera Economic Transformation Plan 2035 (PuTERA35), he said it was a more meaningful and targeted programme aimed at developing Bumiputera socioeconomy in the long term and ensuring substantive participation.

"Whatever weaknesses there are, we will improve in the 2026 Budget.

"We are listening to all views and adjustments will be made. What we are doing now is not necessarily perfect — that's why the dialogue must continue."