

Anwar, accompanied by Wan Azizah and Zaliha, viewing a model of the Residensi Aman Madani project in Bandar Sri Permaisuri at the event yesterday. - ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/THE SUN

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# 'Madani principles must be reflected in housing projects'

> Urban planning must focus on ensuring access to essential facilities, such as education, healthcare, childcare and green spaces, particularly for low-income families: PM

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** All major housing developments must be aligned with Madani principles and include core public amenities, particularly schools and kindergartens, to ensure that they meet real community needs, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said proper urban planning must move beyond the construction of buildings and focus on ensuring access to essential facilities, such as education, healthcare, childcare and green spaces, particularly for low-income families.

He added that projects located far from existing schools must allocate a dedicated block for a vertical school, and every new development must include a preschool within the building.

"These are clear instructions. If these conditions are not met, the project cannot

proceed in full," he said at the groundbreaking ceremony of the Residensi Aman Madani project in Bandar Sri Permaisuri yesterday.

Present were Bandar Tun Razak MP Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, Federal Territories Minister Dr Zaliha Mustafa and Kuala Lumpur Mayor Datuk Seri Dr Maimunah Mohd Sharif.

"I've directed that kindergartens be incorporated within the building. If they aren't already planned, this needs to be corrected."

Anwar pointed out that many urban families earning RM2,000 to RM3,000 a month are forced to send their children to distant facilities.

To ensure compliance, he has summoned the developer, the Kuala Lumpur mayor and relevant authorities to meet him next Monday with an updated layout.

"It won't take long, just 10 minutes. Show me where the school, the kindergarten, the preschool area and the healthcare facility are.

"This is what the Madani framework is about - proper planning, not just building for the sake of building."

The Residensi Aman Madani project is part of the government's broader housing agenda under the Madani initiative, which prioritises affordability, livability and inclusivity.

As part of the project, 18 Gerai Penjaja Madani units will also be built to support local entrepreneurs and micro-enterprises.

Anwar said small traders and hawker stalls must not be sidelined in favour of large commercial outlets.

"About 85% of people in Kuala Lumpur eat at small stalls and *wang*. Only 15% go to high-end restaurants. We're not against upscale eateries but city planning must reflect the needs of the majority."

He criticised the poor state of many hawker stalls, some with leaking roofs and inadequate amenities.

"Our focus can't just be on gleaming towers. We must also uplift the small businesses that matter to ordinary people.

"City planning must be free from corruption and focused on the real needs of the people - food, education, healthcare, transport and public spaces."