

'ECONOMY DOING WELL'

# Snap election unlikely, says PM

**PUTRAJAYA:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has downplayed any chance of calling a snap election next year.

He acknowledged that while the economy was doing well, his focus was on two major items: seeing through reforms and tackling problems faced by the people.

"We still have a long way to go. I'm not sure.

"I am now focusing on how we can continue to implement reforms and alleviate the problems faced by the people, particularly the higher cost of living. Those are the two central foci for next year.

"And I think, although things are relatively better now, it will be better later, *insyaAllah*," he said.

The prime minister was speaking at a dinner with senior editors of local and international media organisations at his official residence here yesterday.

Present were Media Prima News and Current Affairs Division deputy group managing editor and *New Straits Times* group editor Farrah Naz Karim, *Berita Harian* group editor Zulkifli Jalil and Media Prima Television Networks, News and Current Affairs group editor Azhari Muhidin.

Malaysia's economic performance this year has shown stronger momentum than many earlier forecasts.

Official data show that Malaysia's gross domestic product grew 5.2 per cent in the third quarter of this year, up from 4.4 per cent in the second quarter,

This has placed Malaysia on track to meet the upper end of the government's growth projection of 4.0 per cent to 4.8 per cent.