

'POLITICAL COURAGE'

RM800m Budi95 savings to go to public initiatives

KUALA LUMPUR: The government is channelling the RM800 million in savings from the Budi Madani RON95 (Budi95) targeted petrol subsidy scheme into public initiatives nationwide.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said the targeted approach not only conserved public funds, but also redirected resources to programmes that would improve the welfare and quality of life of Malaysians.

“The bold step under Budi95

has allowed us to save RM800 million so far. Every ringgit has been returned to the people through Sumbangan Tunai Rahmah and Sumbangan Asas Rahmah, in addition to upgrading clinics and hospitals, improving road infrastructure and strengthening national facilities,” he said in a Facebook post yesterday.

He said targeted fuel subsidies had been discussed by past governments for more than 20 years, but none had the political courage

to implement it effectively.

“The Madani government has taken this bold step through Budi95 to ensure subsidies benefit only Malaysians, preventing misuse by more than 3.5 million foreigners and the smuggling of tens of thousands of litres of fuel.”

A total of 16 million Malaysians are benefiting from the initiative, which fixes the price of RON95 at RM1.99 per litre. Those eligible are entitled to 300 litres per month under that price.