

# Raids target corruption endgame

## PM: Govt doesn't interfere in enforcement actions

**PUTRAJAYA:** The government does not interfere in enforcement actions taken against any party, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said such measures are essential for maintaining good governance under his administration.

Anwar clarified that neither he nor his Cabinet ministers intervene in the operations of enforcement agencies such as the police, the Inland Revenue Board (LHDN), and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) as they carry out their respective duties.

"Some say I hold grudges or go on a witch hunt. That is not true. I am simply allowing full freedom. I have told the Cabinet that we will not interfere.

"The police are free to do their work, LHDN to collect taxes, and MACC to conduct raids to put an end to corruption.

"A country can be rich, but if its leaders are preoccupied with amassing wealth for themselves, when will they ever take care of the people?

"When there is misconduct, power is abused to the point of accumulating hundreds of millions," he said when launching the newly revamped Alamanda shopping mall here yesterday.

Anwar reiterated that firm action taken by enforcement agencies against wrongdoers is necessary to eradicate unethical practices such as corruption, Bernama reported.

Also present were Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Dr Zaliha Mustafa and Putrajaya Holdings chief executive officer Datuk Izwan Hasli Mohd Ibrahim.

On another matter, Anwar said rapid economic recovery and resilience, as well as the people's capabilities to help the country



**Steering economic growth:** Anwar (front row, third from left) attending the launch of the revamped Alamanda shopping mall in Putrajaya. — Bernama

progress, have become attractive factors for foreign investors to come to Malaysia.

He said foreign leaders and companies are observing how Malaysia has managed to record strong economic growth and high investment inflows, while other countries, are struggling to recover after the Covid-19 pandemic.

"I believe we have the capabilities. Malaysia is extraordinary. Where in the world can a society with diverse ethnicities and religions live in peace?

"There are countries that have faltered a little, weakened by various scandals. Then came Covid-19. But we are now bouncing back with good growth, high investments, and becoming

a data centre and semiconductor hub," he said.

Anwar also said Malaysia's ability to attract foreign investors lies in the people's capabilities to advance and elevate the country.

"Why? Because they see the capabilities of the people. So we give our appreciation to our youths, management, traders and cleaners," he said.

Malaysia also expects visits from more foreign leaders, including the Chinese and South African presidents.

"During Ramadan, (the foreign leaders' visits) will be postponed but will resume after April," he said.

Meanwhile, with Ramadan expected to begin early next

month, Anwar said the holy month serves as the perfect time for Muslims to enhance their spirituality and reflect on the social dimensions of society.

"What does spirituality mean in our society? It is, of course, about appreciation of the divine - not just showcasing piety to others.

"The social dimension is about understanding the meaning of hunger and thirst because many others, perhaps our neighbours and fellow villagers, live in hardship," he added.