

## ELEVATING NATION

# MADANI GOVT'S RECORD SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

**U**NDER the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, we are witnessing a vibrant discourse regarding the direction of Malaysia.

The spectrum of opinions is not uncommon, where criticisms arise alongside accolades, illustrating the intricate and multifaceted dynamics of our nation's socio-political landscape.

This article brings together two different viewpoints regarding the Madani government and examines its achievements and obstacles.

First, the allegations of government interference in the judiciary are baseless.

The separation of powers among the judiciary, legislature and executive branches is a fundamental principle that Anwar has championed throughout his career and is a cornerstone of Malaysia's governance.

The matters at hand have been approached with utmost transparency and, should there have been any inaccuracies, it is reasonable to expect that the palace or the parties directly involved would clarify the situation.

It is essential to acknowledge that past administrations have, on numerous occasions, engaged in actions that undermined the independence of the judiciary, thereby establishing a concerning precedent for our legal system.

Anwar and his cabinet acted decisively in delineating these powers, signifying a commendable return to effective governance, even as it represents a shift from previous methodologies.

After a general election that yielded no clear majority, the present unity government exemplifies the principles of effective and pragmatic leadership.

Including Barisan Nasional (BN), a coalition with the fewest seats among the three major political pacts, within the administration has been met with significant scrutiny.

However, this strategic move is designed to promote national stability and unity. This collaborative approach highlights the commitment to prioritising unity



**KAMIL MUNIM**

over division, even in the face of inherent challenges.

In a time marked by significant political divisions, Anwar's commitment to uniting parties with different perspectives demonstrates his unwavering dedication to building a more cohesive Malaysia.

Under the Madani government, Malaysia has emerged as a significant force in international diplomacy, enhancing its stature on the world stage. Through the utilisation of our nation's advantageous position and its diverse economic environment, this administration has attracted substantial foreign investments.

Furthermore, Anwar's commitment to justice, especially in relation to the Palestinian conflict, underscores the integrity of his foreign policy.

In partnership with global organisations such as the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, the European Union and the United Nations, Anwar has advocated for a peaceful resolution to the conflict, while protecting Malaysia's economic and political interests.

Despite his principled criticism of the Russia-Ukraine War, Anwar has maintained open diplomatic channels with President Vladimir Putin, underscoring Malaysia's commitment to balanced international relations.

Simultaneously, he has fostered robust ties with the United States, reflecting his pragmatic approach to navigating complex global dynamics.

The Madani government has taken significant steps towards resolving longstanding challenges.

The execution of seven out of the 11 pivotal aspects of the Malaysia Agreement 1963 (MA63) stands as a testament to this un-



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim with Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris Students at an event in October to commemorate the work of prominent literary figure Tan Sri Zainal Abidin Ahmad (popularly known as Za'ba). **NSTP FILE PIC**

wavering dedication and demonstrates the government's commitment to restoring Sabah and Sarawak's autonomy while promoting national unity.

These initiatives serve to reinforce the integrity of our government while laying the groundwork for fair and inclusive progress for all citizens.

The Madani Economic Framework has strengthened Anwar's position as a leader, showcasing his commitment to progress and stability. The initiatives have focused on addressing income inequality, bolstering small and medium enterprises, and creating jobs that will cultivate an economy inclusive for all.

These initiatives tackle socio-economic inequalities, laying the groundwork for enduring progress. An increase of up to 15 per cent in salaries under the Public Service Remuneration System (SSPA) reflects the government's commitment to enhancing the livelihoods of public servants.

At this crucial moment, we have placed a strong emphasis on reforming the education and healthcare systems. The increased funding for rural schools in Sabah, Sarawak, Pahang, Perak and Kelantan, along with the emphasis on technical and vocational training, reflects a strong commitment to preparing our future generations with the vital skills they need to succeed.

The government's commitment to enhancing public health services and supporting health workers highlights a comprehensive approach to welfare that prioritises the wellbeing of all citizens.

Short-term measures, such as salary increases and adjustments, more flexible working

hours, and allowing locum practices, have been introduced.

These steps aim to improve the work-life balance and overall welfare of medical professionals, highlighting the administration's focus on their wellbeing.

In light of these accomplishments, it is important to acknowledge that Anwar's administration is encountering considerable scrutiny.

It is imperative that we address these ongoing concerns surrounding the cost of living, pressing environmental challenges, and the need for a more accelerated pace of reforms.

Nevertheless, the initiatives aimed at stabilising prices — such as tackling the fluctuating price of chicken and dismantling rice cartels — demonstrate a commendable and proactive strategy.

It is imperative that we recognise the existing challenges related to transparency and communication gaps. By doing so, we lay the groundwork for enhancing accountability and building trust within our community.

Furthermore, criticisms about Anwar's health and travel itinerary are not only misplaced but also undermine the significant efforts to uphold Malaysia's esteem on the global stage.

The overseas engagements are focused on attracting investments and strengthening diplomatic relations, and play a crucial role in the advancement of our nation. By examining the streamlined nature of his trips in contrast to the practices of previous administrations, we can clearly see Anwar's commitment to efficiency and a leadership style that is driven by purpose.

In the spirit of progress and unity, it is essential to embrace

constructive criticism as a vital tool for our collective advancement. Let us foster a culture of open dialogue, where every voice is heard and valued.

Together, we can cultivate a sense of national optimism that propels us towards a brighter future, ensuring that we rise to meet the challenges ahead with resilience and determination.

Our shared commitment to improvement will undoubtedly strengthen the fabric of our society.

The initiatives put forth by the Madani government serve as a testament to the potential for fostering a more equitable and prosperous Malaysia for all its citizens.

Despite the challenges that persist, the accomplishments of the administration, ranging from the reclamation of MA63 rights to the successful attraction of foreign investments provide a solid basis for optimism moving forward.

It is essential to prioritise transparency, foster grassroots engagement, and implement robust environmental policies to build and strengthen public trust.

As Malaysia navigates these challenging times, it is essential for citizens to support leadership that demonstrates resolve and competence.

With sustained encouragement and thoughtful critique, Anwar's administration possesses the capacity to steer the nation toward a promising future.

The obligation to restore our great nation rests upon the shoulders of all parties. While it is undeniable that this government has its imperfections, responsible citizens must unite to elevate the dignity of our nation.

The writer is deputy PKR Youth chief