

# 'NO PLANS TO AXE ECONOMY MINISTRY'

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## Another minister to temporarily take over Rafizi's duties, says PM

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said there are no plans to dissolve the Economy Ministry following the resignation of Datuk Seri Rafizi Ramli as its minister. The ministry, he said, was intact and cabinet appointments would be decided in due course.

"The Economy Ministry was previously the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) under the Prime Minister's Department. It became a ministry in the first PH (Pakatan Harapan) administration.

"There is no issue because the matter is decided by the cabinet and myself," he said on the sidelines of the Energy Asia 2025 conference here yesterday.

There was speculation that the ministry would be dissolved fol-

lowing Rafizi's resignation as minister on May 28 after losing in the PKR deputy president race. His resignation is effective June 17.

Anwar said he would decide which minister would temporarily take over Rafizi's duties.

"I wish Rafizi the best. He served well as economy minister."

On how Rafizi's resignation would affect the 13th Malaysia Plan, Anwar said the plan was the cabinet's collective responsibility, with the Economy Ministry serving as the secretariat.

"There are many changes due to the current economic situation, including tariffs, so a lot of

figures need to be revised.

"Last week, we had another meeting to hear from ministries about the adjustments and new policies being introduced."

Anwar downplayed the need to revive the EPU, saying there was no issue with the Economy Ministry playing its role.

On a related matter, Anwar said there was no need to rush a decision on Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability Minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad's resignation from the cabinet as he was still on leave.

"Nik Nazmi's status has not yet been decided.

"I always give people a chance to reflect, then I give my opinion. If possible, he should continue his service.

"But he is still on leave, so let's give him space."

Nik Nazmi resigned from the cabinet after failing to retain his PKR vice-president's post. He was the only vice-president who failed to retain his post.

Nik Nazmi had denied rumours that he and other members of parliament who lost in the PKR election would withdraw support for Anwar.

He is on leave until July 3. His resignation takes effect on July 4.