

HIGHER EDUCATION

PM hopes transformation will drive national growth

PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has expressed hope that the ongoing transformation of the higher education sector will significantly contribute to the country's development.

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir said Anwar emphasised that these efforts should focus not only on economic growth, but also on human capital development.

Zambry said this was the message Anwar conveyed during a briefing with the ministry.

"In the briefing we delivered (to the prime minister), and based on what was conveyed to us, he envisions the ministry emerging as a key player in driving significant changes, particularly in the field of higher education.

"As a result, he hopes that the ongoing transformation will have a major impact not only on economic growth and development but also on human capital building," he said.

"As part of this effort, we have undertaken a restructuring process for our higher education plan, and we have now completed the plan for 2025-2035 which covers all aspects related to the nation's future, human capital



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir (front row, right) attending the Higher Education Ministry's Ihya' Ramadan programme in Putrajaya yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

development and nation-building over the next decade."

Zambry said this after the Ihya' Ramadan programme at the Higher Education Ministry here yesterday, which was attended by Anwar.

The programme is part of the government's initiative to visit each ministry during Ramadan, and it features *tazkirah* sessions aimed at reinforcing core values such as honesty, discipline, and responsibility among civil servants.

Zambry added that Anwar also stressed the importance of prioritising artificial intelligence and other emerging fields in today's education landscape.

"His (Anwar's) idea aligns with national policy, particularly as the country advances in sectors such as electrical and electronics, semiconductors and other related industries.

"This ensures that the same momentum is maintained while incorporating new disciplines, particularly in fields, such as

quantum technology and neuro-related studies.

"All of this requires careful preparation to ensure that these emerging disciplines are effectively integrated to drive the nation forward," he said.

Zambry said the prime minister wanted universities, along with institutions such as polytechnics and other components of the education system, to work as a strong and cohesive team in implementing the agenda under the Madani government.