

Govt reviewing need to revise healthcare financing system says Anwar

KUALA LUMPUR: The government is reviewing the need to restructure the country's existing healthcare financing system to ensure it is more sustainable, inclusive and effective as outlined in the Health White Paper, says the Prime Minister.

Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said this is among key issues discussed at the Malaysian Social Protection Council (MySPC) 2025 meeting, which he chaired yesterday.

He said effective governance, procurement processes and implementation mechanisms are crucial to the reform, alongside coordinated efforts from various ministries, particularly Finance and Economy Ministries.

"The meeting focused on the phased roadmap and transformation initiatives for the healthcare financing system, including the proposal to establish a National Health Fund.

"Also on the agenda was the presentation of the National Ageing Action Framework 2025-2045, which outlined the country's strategic response to challenges posed by an ageing population.

"I acknowledge the early measures being undertaken, particularly the need for a comprehensive, cross-ministerial governance mechanism to ensure a more integrated response," Anwar said in a Facebook post.

In another post, the Prime Minister said Malaysia and Japan have proposed for a new cooperation centre to be set up here to strengthen cross-sector collaboration in technology, sustainability and Asean energy integration.

He said the initiative underscores Malaysia's commitment as Asean Chair for 2025, to lead the region's push towards a low-carbon future.

"We welcome Japan's technical and advanced research support, especially through initiatives such as the Asia Zero Emission Community, which will help accelerate the comprehensive and large-scale implementation of the National Energy Transition Roadmap.

"Japan, with its strengths in renewable energy, bio-energy, carbon capture, utilisation and storage has positioned itself as a key strategic partner in Malaysia's aspiration to become a regional hub for sustainable energy innovation," he said, Bernama reported.

The Prime Minister said the proposal was raised during his meeting with Japan's former prime minister Fumio Kishida, who paid a courtesy call on him yesterday.