



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim sounding the gong at the launch of the World Social Security Forum 2025 in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. NSTP PIC BY ASYRAF HAMZAH

NON-EMPLOYMENT INJURY SCHEME

24/7 PROTECTION FOR WORKERS

PM says move aims to address rising prevalence of flexible, remote working schedules

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THE government will introduce the Non-Employment Injury Scheme soon to address the growing prevalence of flexible and remote work arrangements.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said the scheme was part of efforts to strengthen the legal framework to ensure workers were protected beyond standard working hours.

"In an age of flexible and remote arrangements, this reform will align protection with the realities of how people live and work today.

"It will extend coverage around the clock, recognising that accidents and injuries do not keep to a timetable," he told the World Social Security Forum 2025 here yesterday.

The forum is the world's largest gathering on social protection, drawing 2,000 participants from 133 countries.

Anwar said the process involved digitalisation to ensure social protection was delivered more effectively.

The system was far from perfect, but Putrajaya was nonetheless making progress, he said.

"True prosperity is not measured by the size of our skyscrapers or gross domestic product, but by the dignity of ordinary citizens, how they live their daily lives."

He said the global community must work together to formulate fair and equitable policies for workers to ensure shared prosperity.

"A world fractured by inequality cannot endure. Neither a country, nor a region, nor the global community can survive such gross inequality, particularly when driven by an oppressive system that fails to recognise the dignity of workers."

On another matter, Anwar said the government was developing a framework to care for senior citizens while enabling them to contribute effectively to society.

He said one in seven Malaysians would be over the age of 60 by 2030, so Malaysia's social security framework must be ready for an ageing population.

"This will change the shape of our society in profound ways. We must be ready for it.

"Older citizens carry wisdom and skill. Our task is to provide care when needed, but also to enable continued contribution so that ageing is seen as a stage of dignity and possibility."

At another event, Anwar said the government would not impose charges on private vehicles entering the city until Malaysia's public transport system became comprehensive and efficient.

He said there were no plans to introduce such charges as they could burden the public.

"In some countries, to encourage the use of public transport, they charge a fee for private ve-

hicles entering the city. We are not proposing that at the moment because we believe it may be burdensome.

"But once the public transport network across the country is truly comprehensive and reliable, then we can consider it," he said at a press conference after launching the Gombak Integrated Terminal yesterday.

On Feb 27, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Dr Zaliha Mustafa said congestion charges could reduce traffic jams by up to 20 per cent in Kuala Lumpur.

She said a government study had identified three cities where congestion charges could be implemented — Kuala Lumpur, George Town and Johor Baru.

Meanwhile, Anwar said all future integrated terminals should have facilities like markets, community halls, public amenities and housing areas to benefit the people.

He said such integrated terminals could be developed in Pahang, Terengganu and Kelantan, where economic growth remains limited, ensuring the stations serve as catalysts for local economic development while meeting the needs of the people.

On integrating the East Coast Rail Link with the Gombak Integrated Terminal, he said: "I understand that this will take some time, especially because it will incur significant expenditure, but I hope it will receive support from private companies and Prasarana to ease people's travel."

Anwar also urged the government machinery and agencies to accelerate efforts to maximise the use of public facilities.