

Anwar promises equal focus for sports sector

By IVAN LOH
ivanloh@thestar.com.my

IPOH: The development of the country's sports sector will receive the same level of attention as other sectors, says Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

The Prime Minister said the government is committed to the agenda of national sports development, along with development of the economy, culture and intellect.

"I and (Youth and Sports Minister) Hannah Yeoh will see how we can continue to help."

Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim

"I have announced a lot (in Budget 2026) for sports, athletics and for unity.

"I hope we can appreciate our youth's contribution in sports and athletics because they can instil discipline, spirit and unity," he said when opening the National Sports Day at the Sultan Azlan Shah Roundabout here yesterday.

"I and (Youth and Sports Minister) Hannah Yeoh will see



Sporty kids: Anwar and Yeoh looking at a demonstration of rope jumping after launching the National Sports Day in Ipoh.
— Bernama

how we can continue to help.

"Whether in small or large ways, we aspire for our country to develop, not only economically but also culturally, intellectually and in the realm of sports."

During the tabling of Budget

2026, Anwar announced more than RM580mil in allocation for sports development.

Anwar also expressed pride in witnessing the spirit of unity demonstrated by the multi-racial community in the country

through various sporting activities.

"Continue with spirit, discipline and unity.

"Chinese, Malay, Indian and Kadazan - all are here. This is the true face of Malaysia," he added.

Also present were Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Saarani Mohamad, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Shamsul Azri Abu Bakar and Inspector-General of Police Datuk Seri Mohd Khalid Ismail.