

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

PM: SCRAP BUKIT TAGAR PIG FARMING PROJECT

Anwar says MB should look at a more suitable site with modern tech

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will suggest to the state government that the pig farming project in Bukit Tagar be cancelled.

Anwar said the state should consider a more suitable location, provided modern technology is applied.

"In the cabinet meeting, we dis-

cussed the new pig farming area in Bukit Tagar.

"We believe the environmental concerns and anxiety of the people from various races in the surrounding areas should be given attention.

"I will discuss this with Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari to seek his opinion and, if possible, cancel the project for now," he said after attending Friday prayers at Surau Al-Amin in Seksyen 8 here yesterday.

Anwar said another option was to develop the project in the same area where there is livestock, with strict conditions on new technology.

"That is the view given by the cabinet, and I will discuss it again with the menteri besar, taking into account the concerns and also the advice and decree of the

sultan of Selangor.

"Certainly, this is within the jurisdiction and authority of the state government, but I think it has raised some concerns.

"In fact, the issue of livestock farms, especially pig farming, is problematic.

"It has caused severe pollution, as we are seeing in Morib right now. That's why we cannot take this lightly and assume that this matter can be resolved easily."

Last week, Amirudin said the state government had yet to find a site for the relocation of pig farms from Bukit Tagar.

Previously, Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah expressed deep disappointment and disagreement with the state government's decision to allow pig farming to continue in Tanjung Sepat, Kuala Langat, from



Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim greeting people after performing Friday prayers at Surau Al-Amin in Seksyen 8, Bangi, yesterday. **BERNAMA PIC**

this year, ahead of their proposed relocation to Bukit Tagar in 2030.

He said he did not agree with the proposal to designate Kuala Langat as a temporary pig farming site before relocation to Bukit Tagar, warning that pollution that has plagued the area for the past 16 years could worsen.

On other matters, Anwar said he has given the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) full authority to investigate ministries over procurement-related leakages.

Anwar said MACC, the Anti-Money Laundering Division, the Inland Revenue Board and Bank Negara Malaysia must continue their efforts to eradicate corruption and abuse of power.

"Our experience with contracts and tenders shows that despite the strong pressure to eliminate

corruption, there are still weaknesses that need to be addressed.

"For example, there have been numerous proposals from MACC regarding e-waste, which I fail to understand why they are allowed to enter Malaysia.

"Our stance, along with the cabinet's decision, is clear — we completely prohibit Malaysia from becoming a dumping ground for e-waste," he said, adding that he was expected to receive a report from the auditor-general later yesterday.

MACC Chief Commissioner Tan Sri Azam Baki on Thursday said several ministries were found to have problems linked to procurement, particularly leakages that could result in losses to the government.

He, however, did not name the ministries.