

# Govt will strive for timely, efficient and meaningful projects

**BENTONG:** The government's priority this year is to ensure that every project is implemented promptly and with integrity, and meaningfully impacts the local community, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Under the 13th Malaysia Plan, he said the government approved 563 projects of interest to the people worth RM32bil in Pahang, including 34 projects worth RM1.66bil specifically for the Bentong district, though the figure will be meaningless if their implementation fails to touch the reality of people's lives.

"Any project that is delayed due to poor management or contractor problems cannot be left to drag on for years, because every delay means that the people continue to be denied the facilities and services they should enjoy," he said in a post on Facebook that was reported by Bernama.

In a post made in conjunction with his visit to Bentong yesterday, he said he had also ordered that assistance be expedited to 106 extremely poor families in the district.

At the same time, Anwar said all levels must closely monitor the progress of the project.

This follows the implementation of several initiatives, such as efforts to improve classrooms and teachers' rooms ahead of the National Education Plan 2026-2035, as well as voluntary preschool entry at the age of five, and Year 1 at the age of six.

"Failure at the implementation stage, including problematic or late-completion projects, will affect the comfort of learning and the future of children."

Anwar stressed that the issue of integrity cannot be compromised, and every sen channelled is a trust that must reach the people, not flow into the pockets of any party.

"The relaxation of project approvals is not a space for misuse, but an effort to speed up implementation so that the benefits are immediately felt by the people."

In a separate post, Anwar said the second phase of the civil service salary increase under the Public Service Remuneration System (SSPA) is not merely about figures. Instead, it represents a recognition of the dedication and commitment shown by civil servants in driving Malaysia's development.

He said the implementation of this new salary hike is the highest in 12 years and the largest in the history of the country's public service.