

Anwar praises Selangor, but says needy must be helped too
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Although the Selangor government has passed its first test with flying colours, which was to establish an administration that practised good governance without being riddled with corruption and abuse of power, there is still much to be done, said opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim (pic).

"It is good to have excess funds and to spend within our means, but there are still poor people in the state, there are still youths who cannot afford to get into university, there are people who need housing aid," he said during a forum on the findings of the 2012 Auditor General Report at the Petaling Jaya Civic Centre yesterday.

Anwar urged Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Khalid Ibrahim to be more active in spreading welfare aid for the needy. He said what the rakyat wanted now was efficiency and transparency, not just talk of excess funds.

"I have made this suggestion to the Selangor state government several times and even commented on the slow progress in acting on my opinions. There are some areas in the state administration which we would like to see improved," he said.

Khalid, in his second term as Selangor MB, has been criticised in the past for being too prudent with the state's spending, holding back on the healthy state reserve funds accumulated during his first term.

His prudence and frugality have also drawn criticism from Parti Keadilan Rakyat deputy president Azmin Ali. - October 12, 2013.

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