

# 'Revoke Ramadan bazaar licences sold to third parties'

➤ Certain individuals found to have transferred their permits for easy profit: PM

**PUTRAJAYA:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has warned traders that their Ramadan bazaar licences will be revoked immediately if they are found to have been sold.

He said this has to be done because lately, there have been certain people who have sold their licences for easy profit.

"If there is an association that charges a small fee for monitoring and cleanliness, I can understand. But not this (selling their licences). So, we must make sure we know who gets the licence. If he transfers the licence, revoke it immediately."

He was speaking during a meeting with staff of the Prime Minister's

Department yesterday.

Anwar said the revoking of licences of traders who sold their licences had been done by Kuala Lumpur City Hall, and should be emulated by other local authorities.

"So, I hope this strict action in Kuala Lumpur sets an example. Imagine, people are trying to earn extra income during Ramadan to prepare for Aidilfitri with their families, but there are those who impose additional charges beyond the set rate."

Anwar said if the matter is left unaddressed, it could lead to greater breakdown of governance in the country.

He added that if action is not taken, this is how the situation would be nationwide, from the smallest stalls to giant projects.

"What is not rightfully theirs will be taken from them. I believe this (enforcement) also needs to be carried out at ports and airports. We can see some orderly and efficient systems now but we have also noticed several violations that we need to monitor."

He also urged Muslims to prepare themselves ahead of Ramadan in March.

"Preparation here means at least reflecting on the meaning, essence and message of Ramadan for a more meaningful appreciation of the holy month.

"Ramadan emphasises discipline, spiritual strength and confidence as well as a moderate attitude and greater concern for the fate of those

who are marginalised and neglected."

Anwar said efforts to ensure the people's welfare, such as eradicating hardcore poverty and flood mitigation projects, should be expedited.

He said he has requested the Treasury to provide flexibility to fast-track these efforts through immediate allocations in collaboration with the Economy Ministry, as well as faster pre-queue processes.

Anwar said this primarily concerns projects that involve tender processes, which often take too long, Bernama reported.

"Why do we emphasise the issue of tenders? Because I see that if we use negotiations instead, there is a lot of room for error and leakage. Therefore, it is better to use a tender process.

"However, tenders, when following the usual process, can take too long. Yet, those affected by the floods cannot afford to wait."