KERATAN AKHBAR

TARIKH : 22 MAC 2023

AKHBAR : THE SUN

MUKA SURAT : 2

Large companies urged to help with TVET funding

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim called on large and multinational companies to help cover the funding of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in the country.

He said by doing so, they would directly help the people through acquisition, maintenance and training.

"We call on these companies to help TVET because it trains our young people, Malays and bumiputeras, to improve their skills to enable them to get better jobs with higher wages or salaries," he said during ministers' question time in the Dewan Rakyat Pahang and Tanjung Malim, Perak. yesterday.

was replying He to a supplementary question from Datuk Seri Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man (PN-Kubang Kerian), who wanted to know if there were large companies that contribute their profits to the people.

Anwar said the companies include Sunway Bhd, Berjaya Corp Bhd, companies registered with the Associated Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia, Telekom Malaysia and the Albukhary Group of Companies, which specifically offered to take over TVET in Pekan,

To a supplementary question from Cha Kee Chin (PH-Rasah), regarding taxes to be used to help the poor, Anwar said the current government is adopting a different approach by getting large companies to channel financial aid directly to target groups, instead of donating to political parties or individuals.

"As for (corporate figure) Tan Sri Syed Mokhtar Al-Bukhary, I asked him to donate directly to the padi farmers RM60 million, which is 30%

of profit recorded over 20 years."

Replying to Cha's original question on an allegation that Bagan MP Lim Guan Eng, during his tenure as Finance minister from May 2018 until February 2020, cancelled the tax exemption for Albukhary Foundation, Anwar said the allegation was untrue.

"The fact is that the approval for the tax exemption to Albukhary Foundation and the Albukhary Group was only made on Feb 25, 2021.

Anwar said according to Section 44(6) of the Income Tax Act 1967 (Act 53), giving tax relief is not the power of the minister or the prime minister, rather it is the absolute power of the director-general of the Inland Revenue Board. - Bernama

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