

KERATAN AKHBAR

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PUTRAJAYA: The introduction of the Central Database Hub (Padu) is in line with the country's digital transformation move and ensures that every government service will be enjoyed by deserving recipients, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said leakages in the distribution of government aid could be avoided via the hub.

"We are building a more sophisticated and competitive national system. We should not compromise on this matter because,

without Padu, there is too much leakage and misappropriation. That's why there are still poor groups in the country," he said at its launch yesterday.

Anwar said subsidy distribution without a digital approach would only lead to the super-rich and even foreigners benefiting from it.

"The total amount of subsidies given by the government is now RM80 billion, and it's unlikely that Malaysia can sustain its finances if this issue is not addressed."

Anwar said the country's ability

to develop the hub clearly shows that the government machinery is capable of implementing new things without depending on high-cost international consultants.

"The central database method forces every citizen of the country to understand digital transformation and to use Padu."

He also reminded the entire government machinery not to leave behind the urban poor as well as those in rural and remote areas.

Padu, which contains profiles of individuals and households,

including citizens and permanent residents in Malaysia, is an integrated socio-economic database that combines data from government departments and agencies to provide a fair representation of the socio-economic status of each household in Malaysia, Bernama reported.

Padu is officially open from yesterday until March 31 for the public aged 18 and above to register and check data on the system's portal as well as update and verify 39 required personal information.