

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIME
MUKA SURAT : 3
RUANGAN : NATION

Speed up hiring of over 4,000 doctors, urges PM

PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has directed the Health Ministry to cut red tape and speed up the hiring of more than 4,000 government doctors, including contract appointments.

Unity government spokesman Datuk Fahmi Fadzil said the prime minister raised the matter during

yesterday's cabinet meeting.

"The prime minister brought up the issue of the 4,000 doctor vacancies that have yet to be filled, and this was conveyed to cabinet members today (yesterday), especially the health minister.

"The prime minister has requested that any bureaucratic processes that may be causing

delays be expedited," he told a press conference yesterday.

Fahmi added that the Health Ministry had initially expected the vacancies to be filled by November, but Anwar said that would be too late, so the process would be expedited.

"The health minister has given his commitment that the process

will be simplified without compromising procedural integrity," he said.

On Wednesday, in a special announcement, the prime minister said more than 4,000 vacancies would be created for government doctors, including contract-appointed medical officers, this year.

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 5
RUANGAN : NATION

Promoting baby-friendly private hospitals

SEREMBAN: The Health Ministry, through the National Lactation Centre, has launched the Madani private hospital Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) 2025 to promote breastfeeding and reduce the prevalence of diet-related non-communicable diseases.

Its deputy minister Datuk Lukanisman Awang said partnership between the public and private sectors to implement the initiative and support nursing mothers with confidence and respect was a shared responsibility.

"The core objectives of this tour, which is in line with the National Nutrition Policy, include expanding BFHI promotion, ensuring more private hospitals join the movement of nursing mothers, strengthening community support so that nursing mothers do not feel isolated and can confidently nurse their children," he said at the launch of the initiative here yesterday, Bernama reported.

Such inclusive efforts would ensure the health of both mother and child, and allow more Malaysians to support breastfeeding, he said, adding that 31 private hospitals are participating in the initiative.

"Currently, 31 out of 180 private hospitals have been accredited as BFHI. Congratulations to 20 KPJ Healthcare hospitals for being the hospital consortium with the most accredited hospitals," he said.

Lukanisman said there are 15 hospitals being in the final stage of training by the National Lactation Centre together with the state Health Department to receive BFHI accreditation while 65 hospitals are in the process of initial training.