



作者认为，这个预算案试图从富人那里获得收入，杜绝漏税，使补贴合理化，从而使政府能够将补贴重新分配给穷人。（档案照：透视大马）

在我看来，2024年财政预算案确实做到了言之有物，但它是否能够在实际中实现，那就另当别论。从预算案本身来看，政府正在试图向民众展示会付诸实践。我无法详细讨论所有内容，但我会选择我感兴趣的几个方面进行讨论。

概览

我对这个预算案做了几个简单的总结。首先，这个预算案试图从富人那里获得收入，杜绝漏税，使补贴合理化，从而使政府能够将补贴重新分配给穷人。其次，解决那些需要解决但由于敏感性、复杂性和政治意愿而未解决过的问题。



在这个预算案中，政府试图通过杜绝漏洞来获得更多的收入。（档案照：透视大马）

寻找资金

除了开源，也需要节流。老实说，马来西亚最大的问题之一是由于政府对补贴和漏洞的过度承诺。因此，在这个预算案中，政府试图通过杜绝漏洞来获得更多的收入。漏洞是马来西亚任何明智人都同意的一个问题。如果这个问题可以得到解决，国家可以获得更多的资金，而无需对任何人下手。例如，通过控制政府机构的采购，削减不必要的中间商或采购链上的腐败行为，可以帮助国家节省开支。同样的情况也适用于走私问题，其中许多纳税人的钱被那些不负责任的人滥用，例如补贴柴油、白糖等。这是一个公开的问题。这已经说过很多次了，但这是一个系统性问题。要解决这个问题并不容易。我仍然记得多年前，在安华与沙比里仄（Shabery Cheek）辩论时，双方都同意这个漏洞，只要政府有恒心解决，就可以增加国库资金，不再需要针对任何人来填补资金不足。

此外，自前几届政府以来，政府开始重视对以前从未征税但在道义上应该征税的领域征税。例如，去年对外国收入征税，到今年的资本利得税、电子发票等等。马来西亚实际上存在很多人和企业可以合法避税的漏洞。在这几年，包括2024年预算案中，政府已经开始将焦点转向这里，这是必要也是正确的。

解决不受欢迎领域



THE MALAYSIAN INSIGHT
Hasnoor Hussain

2024年的预算对公立大学的学生来说肯定有很多好处，还有其他额外的优惠和特权。（档案照：透视大马）

类似的高等教育问题，很多问题都发生在基层，但那些高层管理层要么不知道，要么不愿意知道。在这个预算中，安华坚定了一些问题。首先，国家教育基金只为学生提供1500令吉的预付款，但一些公立大学可能会收取超过1500令吉的注册费。这对M40及以上的人来说可能不是一个大负担，但对那些贫困家庭来说肯定是一个大负担。他们除了必须掏钱来上大学，而且别忘了，这还不包括其他基本生活必需品。同样，还有很多学生无法支付学期费用，因此被拒绝注册课程，导致他们迟迟无法上课。安华也通过不再允许政府大学这样做来解决这个问题。

6/21/24, 1:55 PM 我简单的说，这个预算案背后的理念是尽可能多地筹集资金，即使这意味着增加生活成本，然后再将这些资金用来补偿那些经济上有困难的人。

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[Liu Zhewei Column] 2024 Budget: The government does what it says



Liu Zhewei

Last updated 8 months ago · Published on 19 Oct 2023 3:34PM · 0 comments



The author believes that this budget seeks to raise revenue from the rich, eliminate tax evasion and rationalize subsidies so that the government can redistribute them to the poor. (File photo: Malaysian Insight)

In my opinion, the 2024 Budget does a lot of talking, but whether it can be delivered in practice is another matter. From the Budget itself, the government is trying to show the public that it will put it into practice. I can't discuss everything in detail, but I will select a few aspects that I am interested in discussing.

Overview

I have a few quick takeaways on this budget. First, this budget seeks to take revenue from the rich, eliminate tax leakage, rationalize subsidies so that the government can redistribute them to the poor. Second, address issues that need to be addressed but have never been addressed due to sensitivity, complexity, and political will.



In this budget, the government is trying to get more revenue by closing loopholes. (File photo: Malaysian Insight)

Finding Funds

Besides increasing revenue, we also need to cut costs. Honestly, one of Malaysia's biggest problems is due to the government's over-commitment on subsidies and loopholes. So in this budget, the government is trying to get more revenue by eliminating loopholes.

Loopholes are a problem that any sensible person in Malaysia agrees on. If this problem can be solved, the country can get more funds without having to target anyone. For example, by controlling the procurement of government agencies, cutting out unnecessary middlemen or corruption in the procurement chain, it can help the country save money. The same applies to the smuggling problem, where a lot of taxpayers' money is misused by those who are irresponsible, such as subsidizing diesel, sugar, etc. This is an open problem. This has been said many times, but it is a systemic problem. It is not easy to solve this problem. I still remember many years ago when Anwar was debating with Shabery Cheek, both sides agreed that this loophole, as long as the government has the perseverance to solve it, can increase the treasury funds, and no longer need to target anyone to fill the shortfall.

In addition, since the previous governments, the government has begun to pay attention to taxing areas that have never been taxed before but should be taxed morally. For example, last year's tax on foreign income, this year's capital gains tax, electronic invoices, etc. There are actually loopholes in Malaysia where many people and businesses can legally avoid taxes. In the past few years, including in the 2024 budget, the government has begun to turn its focus here, which is necessary and correct.

Addressing unpopular areas

Many times, the government is reluctant to address some issues. One of them is the salaries of civil servants. This is a sensitive issue. The public feels that civil servants should not enjoy any kind of bonus or salary increase because they have a bad impression of civil servants. However, no government can completely ignore civil servants because there are so many of them. A large number of civil servants also means a large number of votes.

I am not sure if I am neutral enough to say this, but the fact is that the salary system for civil servants has not been revised for a long time. For many years, civil servants have never received a proper annual bonus. A few decades ago, civil servants could still get a monthly bonus, which was later reduced to RM1,000 and then to RM500. Only in recent years has the government started to increase it slightly, but it is still far from being called a "bonus". This is why the government usually uses the term "subsidy" or "assistance" instead of "bonus".

Any government promises to carry out salary revisions but as of now, there has been no actual progress. I can understand this because a revision of civil servants' salaries means that the government has to pay civil servants more consistently. It is not a one-time thing but a fixed increase in operating expenses every year thereafter. Hence, salary revisions have been promised repeatedly since the Najib era until now. Civil servants may not trust Anwar easily and this RM2,000 bonus is a hint of his determination in salary revisions.



Budget 2024 will surely have a lot of goodies for students in public universities, with other additional benefits and privileges. (File photo: Malaysian Insight)

Similar to the higher education issues, many problems occur at the grassroots level, but those in the upper management are either unaware or unwilling to know. In this budget, Anwar has firmed up some issues. First, the National Education Fund only provides students with an advance payment of RM1,500, but some public universities may charge registration fees of more than RM1,500. This may not be a big burden for those in the M40 and above, but it is certainly a big burden for those from poor families. In addition to having to pay to go to university, don't forget, this does not include other basic necessities of life. Similarly, there are many students who cannot pay the semester fees and are therefore denied registration for courses, causing them to be unable to attend classes. Anwar has also solved this problem by no longer allowing government universities to do this.

Another element related to higher education is the discount given to higher education fund borrowers who want to pay off their loans. But interestingly, the discount this time sounds a bit strange. I don't know the exact reason or rationale behind it. One reason I guess could be that if you can really afford the full amount or half, the government will give you a 10% discount. This is easier for you because you don't have to pay it monthly or think about it anymore. But if you really can't pay it all at once, it means you are not rich enough. Therefore, the government will give you a bigger discount, up to 15%. If my guess is right, then I do appreciate the effort. Of course, it can also be easily abused. Why should I pay it all at once and get a 10% discount? Wouldn't it be better if I pay it monthly?

In conclusion, this Budget 2024 definitely has a lot of goodies for students in public universities, with other additional benefits and privileges. If you ask me why, the non-conspiratorial answer is that I would say that Anwar has a deeper understanding of the situation of university students and is therefore in a better position to reach out to students. These issues regarding insufficient advances on Higher Education Fund loans and refusal to allow registration for courses are very specific issues. You will not understand them unless you are in them yourself. But from a political perspective, Anwar is trying to win back the support of government university students. They have always been supporters of PKR or its allies, but the recent "Green Tide" has forced them to switch to PN. Don't forget, they are still young and have decades to vote. Once you lose them in the early stages, you may lose them in all future elections.

in conclusion

Let me simply say that the idea behind this Budget is to raise as much money as possible, even if it means increasing the cost of living, and then use that money to compensate those who are in financial difficulty.

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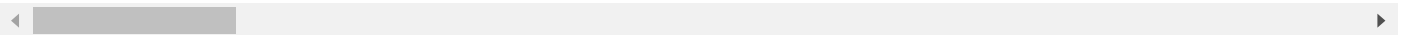


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