Why Anwar, Lim Kit Siang & PH Remnants Are Talking Bullshit And Are Clueless!

By Matthias Chang - Future Fast-Forward

I am thoroughly disgusted with the propaganda by the Pakatan Harapan (PH) goons that only a debate in Parliament will enable these goons to comment on the recent short term recovery package announced by the Prime Minister.

The Director of Communications of the PKR Party, Fahmi Fadzil in a press statement, following a special meeting on 31st May, 2020, stated that PKR leaders discussed issues relating to Covid 19 and the impact on the Malaysian society and the economy and that the central leadership council will work on drafting a few policies. Since the meeting we have heard nothing from these goons on the policies that they are drafting and the basis for their conclusions.

I am now calling them out to a debate - PKR and PH cannot provide any credible suggestions and or solutions and what they are doing is to project an illusion that they are doing something when they are in fact clueless and are obsessed with seizing power by any means.

I applaud the cautious approach by the PN government in formulating its policies to overcome the horrendous consequences of the Covid19 pandemic. This has been an unprecedented crisis that has devastated the entire global economy, but the PH regime prior to the imposition of the Movement Control Order (MCO) on 18.3.2020 was clueless and utterly irresponsible in focusing on the Visit Malaysia Year 2020 (distracted by the illusion of generating RM100 Billion revenue) and ignoring WHO's warning of the global pandemic in January 2020.

Till today, no country has recovered from the economic devastation, save that China has announced that recovery efforts have been facilitated after the reopening of Wuhan. There are on-going debates, even now, whether the recovery would be a V Curve, U Curve, L Curve or W Curve shape recovery. There are just too many uncertainties to enable policy-makers to draw up long term plans.

I had in my Whatsapp messages caution the PN government to examine and analyse the data with a fine tooth comb as there would be a time lag of at least six months before we can get a reasonable picture of the economic and financial impacts following the Covid19 MCO.

I am more than confident that the PN government is on the same page and is collating all relevant data to formulate a long term strategy while prescribing short term remedies to alleviate the sufferings of the rakyat. But the PH goons, having little or no access to accurate data, are parading as financial wizards and having all the answers. Such is their arrogance and conceit.

To prove the point, all we need to do is to take heed of the observations by the IMF.

In a blog post on 26.5.2020 (before the 31.5.2020 PKR Meeting), the IMF said,

"Accurate and timely economic data are crucial for informing policy decisions, especially during a crisis. But the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the production of many key statistics. Without reliable data, policymakers cannot assess how badly the pandemic is hurting people and the economy, nor can they properly monitor the recovery. We are working with member countries and other international agencies to address these data disruptions and keep economic data flowing."

"The significant data disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic <u>require</u> innovative data collection methods and data sources."

You can bet your bottom dollar that these PH goons are totally unaware of the IMF observations and guidelines. If they are aware, I challenged them to produce the minutes of their meetings on this matter, and if they did discussed IMF guidelines, Fahmi Fadzil, the PKR Director of Communication would have alluded to the same in his press statement on 31.5.2020.

What polices can PKR draft, when the PKR goons have no data to work on? It is that easy to puncture PKR's balloons of lies, propaganda and misinformation!

Let's recap on IMF Guidelines:

Three key statistical challenges

<u>First</u>, many staff in national statistical offices are now working from home due to lockdowns, often with limited access to the tools and data they need to produce and disseminate economic indicators. <u>For example, the calculation of retail prices often requires physical visits to stores but this is currently not possible in many countries. Similarly, surveying businesses about their production and investment plans is difficult as many have temporarily shut down or simply do not have the resources to respond to statistical questionnaires.</u>

These disruptions mean that data on prices and production—critical for calibrating monetary policy and fiscal stimulus measures—may either be delayed or have to be estimated based on partial information.

<u>Second</u>, inconsistent approaches to recording government support to people and businesses may complicate the assessment of their impact on public finances. How best to reflect some of these measures is not so straightforward. <u>For example, when a government provides financial support to companies affected by COVID-19, is it making a financial investment or is it providing subsidies with no return expected? <u>Depending on the answer, policymakers will get a different picture of the fiscal deficit and public debt.</u></u>

Third, to make the best-informed decisions, policymakers need a real-time readout of the economy. Many traditional official statistics—even those with monthly frequency—are just not sufficiently up to date to be useful at this time. Higher-frequency alternative data are needed to complement official statistics. While the important role of alternative indicators was already recognized before the pandemic, the disruptions of traditional statistics caused by the current crisis have made it more urgent.

Tackling data disruptions

Countries can benefit from guidance on how to fill these data gaps during the pandemic. Our recent guidance notes offer recommendations and best practices to ensure continuity of key statistics for prices, growth, and trade.

Key recommendations include:

- Prioritizing and focusing on data components that have the highest impact on critical statistics.
- Temporarily estimating or imputing values for missing data components using alternative data sources, market intelligence, and best judgement. Examples include replacing missing prices due to store closures with online prices or crowdsourced data (turning to internet communities to help collect data) and replacing in-person travel surveys, which are now impossible due to social distancing, with immigration records.
- Enhancing transparency of statistical procedures by adequately disclosing the methods used to estimate missing and imputed data and notifying users in advance about delays in publishing key statistical indicators.

With countries around the world experiencing similar data challenges during this crisis, information sharing and peer learning is critical to benefit from best practices. The IMF, together with Eurostat, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation (OECD), the United Nations, and the World Bank, is supporting this effort through video conferences and a COVID-19 portal for compilers hosted by the OECD. IMF guidance notes on how to record key types of government interventions complement these efforts.

Today, with the urgent need for new data sources to support real-time monitoring of economic activity, countries have been stepping up efforts to find higher frequency and more granular information to identify and quantify the impact of the virus faster. For example, the United Kingdom started to release weekly bulletins with new and experimental indicators, including online price indices and daily shipping data to measure the economic impact of COVID-19 on inflation and trade. South Africa, using online prices from retail stores, has compiled an Essential Products Consumer Price Index. The IMF is incorporating these and other new data sources to analyze the economic and financial impact of COVID-19,

including, for example, by tracking activity in specific sectors and mobility through high-frequency energy consumption and flight data.

The significant data disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic require innovative data collection methods and data sources. More accurate and real-time information will help countries continue to respond more effectively to the crisis and start planning for the recovery.

It should be noted that on the onset of the crisis, I shared my experiences in data collection by applying the tool of "Critical Path Analysis" in analysing the data giving rise to "blockages", "disruptions" and "outcomes" etc. Since then, I have been updating whatever data are available. Even then, it is "work-in-progress" and I dare challenge the PH goons to demonstrate and explain how they are drafting their "fantasy policies".

To all my fellow Malaysians,

Time after time, I had caution you to be careful with the lies and propaganda coming from Anwar. Lim Kit Siang and even Tun Mahathir and that as a concerned citizen, you owe to yourself, your family and the country to VERIFY, VERIFY AND VERIFY whatever have been spewed by these scumbags.

By quoting at length IMF's guidelines, I was able to demolish and expose the nonsense of the PH goons. All that was required was some effort and time.

Don't say, "I don't have time". That is an arsehole excuse. If we are concern ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY, WE MUST MAKE TIME..