

Zahid succeeds in strengthening M'sia-UK ties

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Despite a brief working visit, Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi made a successful first visit to the United Kingdom (UK), clearly paving the way for bilateral Malaysia-UK cooperation in new specialist fields, besides sharing experience in security management in these ever-challenging times.

This achievement can be attributed to the fact that no country in the world can now deal with the threat of transnational crimes and terrorism unilaterally, but needs strategic cooperation at the international level, either bilaterally or multilaterally.

It is quite interesting that Zahid's visit this time is that not only Malaysian security agencies will have the opportunity to learn a lot from the UK on the management of the national security system, but UK, as a developed nation, is also keen to learn from Malaysia's experience in handling the problem of militant Islam and religious extremists in the de-radicalisation programme.

For Zahid, who is also home minister, his meetings and discussions with his counterpart, the UK home secretary and heads of security agencies in London and in Manchester during his four-day visit, greatly contributed to the anticipated success.

He also met the DirectorGeneral of Communication Headquarters (GCHQ) Richard Hannigan. despite being unable to accept the UK government's invitation to Cheltenham to see the CGHQ facility.

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