

PM briefed on China's edge in AI

BEIJING: Getting a firsthand look at Chinese technological advancements is high on the prime minister's agenda during his working visit here.

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday toured the office of the world's biggest and most valuable artificial intelligence (AI) startup, SenseTime Group Ltd, a day after visiting Huawei. It is in Zhong-guancun, Beijing's tech hub.

He was shown the latest AI technologies and their application in facial recognition, safe city solutions, autonomous driving, remote sensing and other key focus areas.

SenseTime is looking at setting up the first AI park in Malaysia, aimed at helping local tech businesses develop robots, speech recognition and foster tech talent.

A statement said SenseTime, together with Malaysian tech company, G3 Global Bhd, had entered into a strategic collaboration to set up the park, with China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd (CHEC).

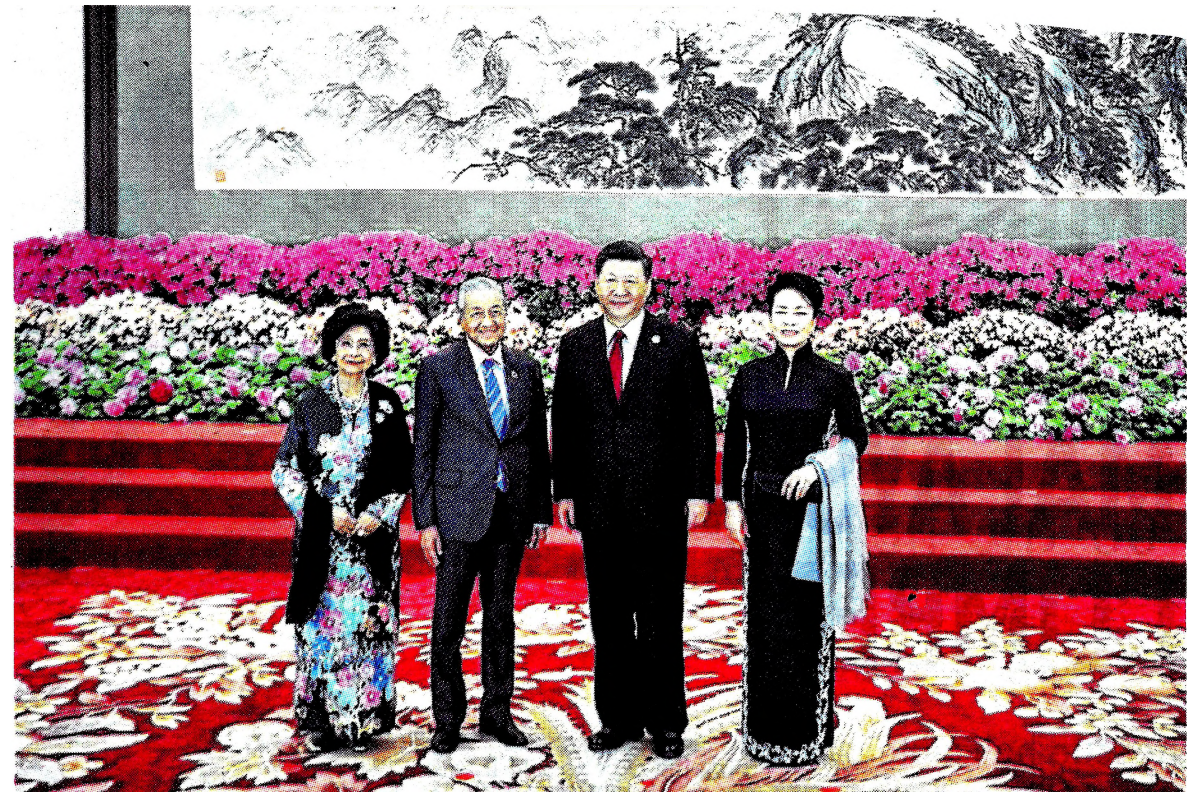
It said under the collaboration, G3 would be involved in facilitating and coordinating the establishment of the AI park. SenseTime will provide its industry expertise and technological support particularly on facial and object recognition.

It will assist in the development and deployment of training syllabus for universities, colleges and schools. CHEC will provide its expertise in infrastructure engineering and construction.

Professor Xiao'ou Tang, SenseTime founder and professor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, said the company was looking forward to working with the Malaysian government, academia and business sectors to bring its technological expertise and experience to Malaysia.

Dr Mahathir was briefed on the AI Park during his visit. SenseTime's image-identifying algorithms have led it to contracts with top phone makers and telecommunications companies.

Chinese police departments use its systems to analyse secu-



WELCOME BANQUET

Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, at a welcome banquet hosted by President Xi Jinping and his wife, Peng Liyuan, at the State Banquet Hall in Beijing yesterday night.

rity footage and detain suspects. Beyond spotting faces in a crowd, SenseTime's long-term goal is to put its technology at the core of image recognition everywhere,

from security and shopping systems to personal ID services that work by scanning faces.

In doing so, SenseTime has become China's largest AI algo-

rithm provider. The company has offices in Hong Kong, Beijing, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Chengdu, Hangzhou, Kyoto, Tokyo and Singapore.