

HIGH-PROFILE MEET-AND-GREET SESSION

# PM MEETS TOP JAPANESE EXECES, CEOS

**Ismail Sabri says aim is to expand firms' investments in Malaysia, attract new investors**

TOKYO

**P**RIME Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob held a high-profile meet-and-greet session with top executives and chief executive officers (CEOs) from 23 prominent Japanese companies in the Japanese capital here yesterday to attract more investments from Japan.

The top executives and CEOs were from Mitsubishi Corporation, Mitsui & Co Ltd, Marubeni Corporation, AEON Co Ltd, Japan Petroleum Exploration Co Ltd, JERA Co Ltd, ITOCHU Corporation, ADEKA Corporation, Mitsui OSK Line, Daiso Industries Co Ltd, ENEOS Corporation and Sumitomo Corporation.

Also present were top execu-

tives and CEOs from Menicon Co Ltd, Ferrotec Holdings Corporation, Idemitsu Kosan Co Ltd, Chitose Laboratory Corporation, Leave a Nest Co Ltd, Euglena Co Ltd., Toyoda Trike Inc, Asia Development Capital Co Ltd, NTT Corporation, Musashino University and Mitsubishi Power Ltd.

Ismail Sabri said discussions included the expansion of the companies' investments in Malaysia, adding that several companies had expressed their interest to invest in the country.

"The session was held so that I could meet with them face-to-face and get to know them better.

"At the meeting, I informed them that the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (Mida) and the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (Matrade) were ready to assist them should they face any challenges."

He said he also briefed them on investment incentives, including the five-year tax exemption for companies that wished to expand their investments in Malaysia.

Last year, Japan was Malaysia's fourth largest trading partner



*Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob shaking hands with Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida after a bilateral meeting at the Japanese Prime Minister's Office in Tokyo yesterday. BERNAMA PIC*

with trade valued at about RM149 billion. It was also the third largest foreign investor in Malaysia's manufacturing sector. With projects worth RM90.9 billion.

Meanwhile, Ismail Sabri had a meeting with Prime Minister Fumio Kishida to discuss efforts to boost the cordial Malaysia-Japan relations at the Japanese Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

This is the first meeting between Ismail Sabri and Kishida on the bilateral ties since they both led their respective govern-

ments last year.

Ismail Sabri and Kishida had earlier held a Japan-Malaysia conference and spoken to each other in a phone call on April 20, touching on various regional and international issues.

This is also the first time that Kishida played host to his Malaysian counterpart since taking up the post as prime minister in October last year.

The meeting was held in conjunction with the official visit of Ismail Sabri to Japan, where he would also participate in the 27th

International Conference on the Future of Asia.

This is an annual gathering of political, economic and industry leaders from the Asia-Pacific region.

It is also Ismail Sabri's the first official visit to Japan since holding the post of prime minister in August last year.

This year is also the 40th anniversary of the Look East policy that contributed to the strengthening of bilateral relations between Malaysia and Japan. **Bernama**