



Ismail Sabri receiving the award from Kato at the ceremony yesterday. - BERNAMAPIX

M'sia keen to learn from Japanese experience

TOKYO: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob began his maiden visit to Japan yesterday by meeting Itabashi Mayor Takeshi Sakamoto, and expressed Malaysia's interest in learning from the city's experience in reducing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Itabashi is one of the 23 wards in Tokyo Metropolis.

Through his observation during the journey to the city, Ismail Sabri said he believed that Malaysia has a lot to learn from the management of Itabashi,

especially when the world is facing extraordinary challenges due to Covid-19.

He said various social and economic sectors needed to be revitalised in Malaysia so that they could operate at optimum levels.

"I am interested in exchanging views and learning from your experience," he said at a ceremony at Itabashi City Hall to celebrate his inaugural visit to Japan since becoming prime minister.

Ismail Sabri arrived in Tokyo on Monday night to begin his six-day working visit.

He said Malaysia admires Japan for its high achievements in science and technology as well as its success in cooperation at the international level and the management of its people's welfare.

He added that both countries shared noble and commendable values in upholding their respective cultural heritage.

Ismail Sabri was yesterday awarded an honorary doctorate in medicine by Nihon University, one of the most distinguished and oldest private universities

in Japan.

The honorary degree is in appreciation of his efforts and contributions in the fight against Covid-19.

He received the degree from Nihon University president Dr Naoto Kato at the university in Itabashi.

Expressing his appreciation for the award, the prime minister said it was not only for him but also the entire Malaysian Family which had stood in solidarity with the government in facing the pandemic. - Bernama