

M'sia, China aim to enhance R&E

Research and education to get extra attention due to their potential

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GEORGE TOWN: Malaysia and China will explore the need to increase collaboration in research and education, besides the export of durians, says Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

The Prime Minister said during a closed-door meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi that they also touched on regional matters such as an "Asean mechanism" for addressing pressing issues in the South China Sea.

"We discussed education since Malaysia hosts a substantial number of Chinese students at about 60,000, while there are about 7,000 Malaysian students studying in China.

"The Chinese minister also acknowledged the potential for further academic exchanges that could contribute to the growth and development of both countries," he told reporters when met

after the meeting here yesterday

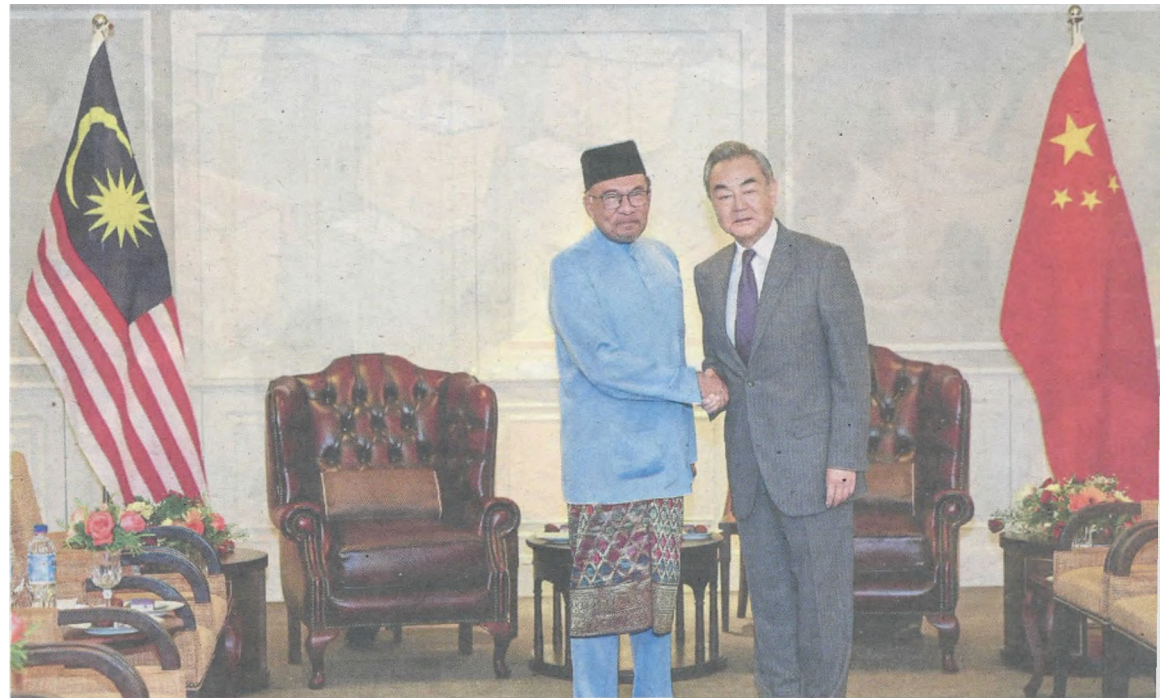
Anwar said despite sharing strong ties with China, Malaysia would strive to enhance normal diplomatic engagements through a strong, strategic partnership.

"Our strong relationship makes it easier for us to discuss other things because of the good ties we have," he said, adding that he and Wang Yi touched on various aspects of cooperation and collaboration with a focus on investments, education and regional issues.

"Together with other Malaysian ministers, we also spoke on matters involving the strengthening of relationships on both sides."

He also thanked Wang Yi for his role in facilitating significant Chinese investments in Malaysia, such as petrochemical giant Rongsheng and carmaker Geely, along with other key players.

The Chinese minister was in the country on a courtesy visit to meet Anwar.



Good relationship: Anwar meeting with Wang Yi at a hotel in George Town. - Bernama