

25 Japanese companies keen on investing in Malaysia

TOKYO: Twenty-five Japanese companies have expressed interest in investing in Malaysia during a roundtable meeting with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim here yesterday.

Organised by the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (Mida) on the sidelines of the Asean-Japan Commemorative Summit, the meeting sought to facilitate investment from Japan's biggest industry players in manufacturing, services and trade.

Anwar said the New Industrial Master Plan 2030 (NIMP 2030) outlined the country's approach to investment partnerships.

"From our NIMP 2030, it is very clear what we want to achieve, what the mission is. And ... our focus now is digital transformation.

"So, industries involved in this should be encouraged to participate and cooperate with us.

"Why I am here is of course to listen to you... what needs to be done to facilitate or even accelerate the process of engagement and possible investments from your end," he said.

Anwar thanked the Japan-Malaysia Economic Association (Jameca) for coordinating the meeting here for Mida, which is



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim at a roundtable meeting with Japanese captains of industry in Tokyo yesterday.

under the purview of the Investment, Trade and Industry Ministry.

"And I am of course very thankful to Jameca for coordinating this event and I am particularly impressed by the fact that so many captains of industries are present and have given their support.

"And on behalf of Malaysians, I want to thank you again."

Present was Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz, who opened the meeting.

Tengku Zafrul acknowledged Japan as one of Malaysia's top three sources of foreign direct investment.

He said the roundtable would look at establishing partnerships in innovation and green technology, as well as energy transition, among others.

Zafrul added that a one-stop centre for investment-related matters — the Invest Malaysia Facilitation Centre (IMFC) — established by his ministry, would also

play a big role in Malaysia-Japan cooperation.

IMFC began operations on Dec 1 and is at the Mida headquarters in Kuala Lumpur.

It was set up to help businesses and investors in manufacturing and services to meet the regulatory requirements at the federal and state levels.