

MALAYSIA SEEKS JAPAN'S CYBER EXPERTISE

Anwar hopes Asean will get Tokyo's help to stem rising cases of cyber exploitation

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Malaysia is seeking to get Japan's expertise to raise cybersecurity standards in the region.

Speaking at the opening session of the Japan-Asean Summit here yesterday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim acknowledged Japan's expertise in cyberspace and hoped to foster more collaborations between Asean and the country to boost cybersecurity within the region.

"With the expansion of the digital landscape, cyberthreats are increasing exponentially.

"Together, we must prioritise the protection of our citizens from cyber exploitation related to terrorism, trafficking-in-persons and various cyber and transnational crimes.

"Recognising Japan's expertise in cyberspace, Malaysia encourages further Asean-Japan collaboration to elevate cybersecurity standards in our region by sharing best practices, knowledge and skills focusing on areas such as intellectual property protection, data privacy and threat in-



SEAN-JAPAN 50th YEAR COMMEMORATIVE SUMMIT

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim (second from right) taking a group photograph with Asean leaders during the Asean-Japan Commemorative Summit in Tokyo yesterday. The other leaders are (from left) Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Thailand Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin, Vietnam Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh, Indonesia President Joko Widodo, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, Laos Prime Minister Sonexay Siphandone, Brunei ruler Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, Cambodia Prime Minister Hun Manet and East Timor Prime Minister Kay Rala Xanana Gusmao. BERNAMA PIC

telligence," he said.

Another item on top of the agenda was the commitment to maintain peace and stability.

Anwar said the close cooperation and initiatives implemented through the Asean Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) reflected the commitment from both sides of the alliance.

He noted that Malaysia had benefited immensely from the

framework, particularly from the training programmes for vessel traffic and international law in the Straits of Malacca.

"The close cooperation and many initiatives implemented through the Asean Outlook on the Indo-Pacific and Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific reflect the strong commitment on both sides to deepen relations and maintain peace and stability in the region.

"Asean appreciates Japan's

continued commitment for Asean centrality and unity.

"Under this framework, both sides have benefited from the training programmes for vessel traffic and international law in the Straits of Malacca," he said.

Anwar added that Malaysia proposed further initiatives to help improve navigational safety and voyage planning in one of the world's busiest waterways (Straits of Malacca)."

The prime minister was among

10 Asean leaders attending the summit here, which started yesterday with a welcome dinner hosted by Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.

Both leaders from Japan and Asean marked their 50th anniversary of friendship at the summit which ends tomorrow.

A joint vision that emphasised security cooperation amid growing tensions with China in regional seas was also on the summit's agenda.