

'BIG BOOST FOR EV SECTOR'

Collaboration with Tesla will create tens of thousands of skilled jobs, says Anwar

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said tens of thousands of skilled job opportunities will be created through the government's collaboration with Tesla and its chief executive officer Elon Musk.

Anwar, who had a virtual meeting with Musk yesterday, said the collaboration would enhance the country's electric vehicle sector.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, said the new jobs would be realised through the establishment of the Tesla headquarters, service centre and experience centre in Cyberjaya, as well as collaborations in Petaling Jaya.

He said a collaboration with SpaceX subsidiary Starlink in



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim held a virtual meeting with Tesla chief executive officer Elon Musk (inset) yesterday. REUTERS PIC

satellite broadband service will greatly improve Internet connectivity, particularly in rural areas.

He said this service required minimal physical infrastructure and land to achieve global Internet connectivity.

"For the Starlink satellite service, we have reached an agreement. It will provide rural areas, schools and universities access to affordable Internet.

"Initially, 40 satellite services will be provided, but he (Musk)

acknowledged the priority given to Malaysia.

"For SpaceX, three Malaysian companies will be involved. He (Musk) has expressed his intention to visit Malaysia soon."

Anwar said this after performing Friday prayers at Masjid al-Khairiyah in Taman Sri Gombak, Selangor, yesterday.

Anwar had the virtual meeting with Musk at the Prime Minister's Office in Putrajaya. It began at 9.30am and lasted 25 minutes.

Present at the meeting were Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz and Communications and Digital Minister Fahmi Fadzil.

In a statement after the meeting, Anwar welcomed Musk's and

other companies' readiness to park their investment in Malaysia.

"I would like to extend my congratulations and support from the government to facilitate the opening of Tesla's headquarters, service centre and experience centre in Selangor this year."

He said the meeting touched on how Starlink can boost Internet connectivity in Malaysia, as well as the country's commitment to achieving net-zero emissions.

"Malaysia will continue to strive towards the country's commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

"Malaysia has a plan and comprehensive ecosystem as well as competitive resources to support the clean energy industry, including electric mobility."