

Room to improve Malaysia-Vietnam ties: Envoy

HANOI: Malaysian Ambassador to Vietnam Datuk Tan Yang Thai said Vietnam-Malaysia ties are progressing well, and there is room to expand collaboration.

In an interview with Vietnam News Agency, Tan emphasised the significance of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's two-day visit to the country, which

began yesterday.

The tour coincides with the 50th anniversary of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

"I hope this visit will further spur

bilateral relations between the two countries, especially in terms of economic matters, as there is much work that can be done. We can cooperate for the mutual benefit of our countries."

Highlighting the business community's role in further strengthening relations between both countries, Tan said more Malaysian companies should look for business opportunities in Vietnam.

Tan also said the Vietnamese government has been doing very well in attracting foreign direct investments.

He added that the country has extended tourist e-visas from 30 to 90 days starting from Aug 15, which is among the government's efforts to attract foreign investments.

He said Malaysia welcomes Vietnamese investors, and organisations such as Vingroup could invest outside Vietnam.

On potential sectors for cooperation, Tan said the *halal* market has not received due attention in Vietnam.

He added that Vietnamese companies would have the chance to look into the *halal* concept during a business forum scheduled as part of Anwar's visit.

Tan said Malaysia is ready to assist in developing *halal* products and participate in the huge potential market. - Bernama-VNA



Anwar, accompanied by his counterpart Pham Minh Chinh, inspecting a guard of honour during the official welcoming ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Hanoi yesterday. - **BERNAMAPIC**