



*Ahmad Farhan Fauzi*

## Anwar's visit boosted Saudi ties, says aide

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's visit to Saudi Arabia was, contrary to what the opposition claims, a success as it strengthened Putrajaya-Riyadh relations.

This was despite Anwar being in the early stages of his administration as prime minister.

However, Anwar's political sec-

retary, Ahmad Farhan Fauzi, said there were attempts to undermine Anwar's visit by describing it as a failure.

"The prime minister had a packed and structured schedule, including meetings with the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and the World Muslim League in Makkah.

"He also witnessed the signing of memoranda of understanding involving businesses and industries, and addressed urgent issues that plagued the Arab and Muslim world.

"He met the Malaysian community and students in Saudi Arabia."

Farhan, who was part of

Anwar's delegation to the kingdom, was responding to criticism from the opposition over the outcome of the prime minister's visit.

"I urge those who have run out of ideas to stop this polemic and work together to support the government's efforts to strengthen Malaysia's image and its foreign relations."