

# PM lauds Japan's commitment on Palestine-Israel conflict issue

**PUTRAJAYA.** Despite differences in emphasis when it comes to the issue of the Palestine-Israel conflict, Malaysia has commended Japan for her support for the safe passage of humanitarian assistance into Gaza, says Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

The Prime Minister said he also appreciated Japan's position on Israel's illegal settlement in Palestine and the need for peace in the region.

"Although there are differences

in emphasis between Malaysia and Japan on the issue, I must commend Prime Minister Fumio Kishida for his commitment," he said in a joint statement following a meeting with Kishida at Seri Perdana yesterday.

Kishida arrived in Malaysia on Saturday, his first visit since assuming office in October 2021.

Anwar said the situation in Gaza must be given attention, pointing out that according to

reports, Israel had dropped more explosives on the besieged Gaza Strip compared to those dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II.

On the same issue, Kishida said he had explained to Anwar Japan's position on the Palestine-Israel issue.

"I conveyed to him that it is important that all direct parties act in accordance with international law

"It is also important to prevent spillover (of tension) to neigh-

bouring countries and for the situation to de-escalate quickly," he added.

Kishida said it was important to improve the humanitarian situation in Gaza.

He said in discussing regional and global issues, he expressed views on the importance of maintaining international order based on the rule of law.

"Frank discussions took place where I also stated the importance of ensuring human dignity is protected," he added.

A memorandum of cooperation between Malaysia and Japan was signed in the field of information and communication.

Kishida said he also exchanged views with Anwar on the situation involving the East China Sea and South China Sea as well as aggression against Ukraine.

"Any attempt to change the status quo by force is not tolerated," he said.

Japan is seeking to resist a more aggressive China in the East and South China Seas.