

SOUTHEAST ASIAN TOUR

PM receives courtesy call from New Zealand DPM

PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday received a courtesy call from New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Winston Peters, who is on a four-day working visit to Malaysia.

Peters arrived at Perdana Putra at 5pm. He and his delegation arrived in the country on Thursday.

Malaysia is the second stop on Peters' Southeast Asian tour after Vietnam. The trip aims to demonstrate New Zealand's prioritising of cooperation with the dynamically developing region.

Malaysia and New Zealand es-

tablished diplomatic relations on Sept 25, 1957 and ties have remained strong and stable.

Tourists from New Zealand to Malaysia hit 18,238 in 2022. More than 17,000 Malaysians live in New Zealand.

In the Pacific region, Malaysia is New Zealand's second-largest trading partner, with total trade volume reaching RM6.32 billion up to June last year.

Earlier, Anwar said in a post on Facebook yesterday that he extended a donation to ailing former national footballer Azman Adnan to ease his medical expenses.

He said the donation was pre-



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim speaking to New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Winston Peters (third from left) at Perdana Putra in Putrajaya yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

sented by his political secretary, Ahmad Farhan Fauzi, who visited the former Selangor striker yesterday.

He said Azman, 52, required

regular physiotherapy for his leg ailment.

He said this and other health problems faced by Azman had made it difficult for him to do

heavy work, so he had lost his source of income.

"Wishing Azman a speedy recovery, *Insya-Allah*," Anwar said in the post.