



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Chinese Premier Li Qiang attending the signing of the memorandums of understanding in Putrajaya yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

## MINISTRIES INVOLVED

# 14 MoUs INCLUDING ON DIGITAL ECONOMY INKED

### One MoU covers phytosanitary requirement for export of fresh durians to China

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**M**alaysia and China inked 14 memorandums of understanding (MoUs) in areas of

cooperation, including for digital economy, green development and tourism,

The exchange of MoUs was witnessed yesterday by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Chinese Premier Li Qiang during the latter's three-day official visit here beginning Tuesday.

Nine ministries were involved in the exchange of MoUs: Investment, Trade and Industry Ministry; Finance Ministry; Agriculture and Food Security Ministry; Housing and Local Government Ministry; Home Ministry; Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry; Higher Education Ministry; Tourism, Arts and Culture Ministry; and Communications Ministry.

Three agreements were exchanged by Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz with his Chinese counterpart, Com-

merce Minister Wang Wentao.

The agreement included the second cycle of the five-year Malaysia-China programme for economic and trade cooperation to deepen linkages between industries in priority sectors, such as high-level manufacturing and digital economy.

Additionally, an MoU on the strengthening of investment cooperation in the digital economy — which outlined an economic and trade cooperation plan between Malaysia and China that sets the framework for bilateral cooperation for the next five years in trade and investment — was exchanged.

Meanwhile, two MoUs were exchanged by the Communications Ministry.

One was with the China Media Group on media cooperation and another on the strengthening of cooperation in the postal field between the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission and the China State Postal Bureau.

Under the Finance Ministry, a joint statement on the national single window for cross-border trade initiatives — which saw the establishment of a Joint Working Group on Single Window Cooperation between both countries to explore, adopt or initiate specific activities, projects and arrangements for single window interoperability — was exchanged.

As for the Housing and Local Government Ministry, the MoU exchanged was for housing and urban development, while under

the Higher Education Ministry, the agreement was on higher education cooperation.

The Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry exchanged an agreement on a science and technology people-to-people exchange programme.

The Agriculture and Food Security Ministry exchanged one MoU for the Protocol Between General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China and the Agriculture and Food Security Ministry for Phytosanitary Requirement for Export of Fresh Durians from Malaysia to China.

The Home Ministry exchanged an agreement on "Cooperation on Preventing and Combating Transnational Crimes and a Note of Intent on Visa Exemption between Malaysia and China".

The Tourism, Arts and Culture Ministry saw two MoUs being exchanged: an executive programme for the implementation of the agreement on cultural cooperation as well as tourism cooperation.

Earlier, Anwar and Li had a closed-door meeting to discuss relations between Malaysia and China and exchanged views on regional and international issues. Anwar later hosted a luncheon for Li and his delegation.

China has been Malaysia's largest trading partner for 15 consecutive years since 2009.

Last year, trade with China was valued at RM450.84 billion (US\$98.80 billion), contributing 17.1 per cent of Malaysia's global trade.