

BILATERAL TRADE

Malaysia, Kyrgyz Republic to jointly develop halal industry

BISHKEK: Malaysia and the Kyrgyz Republic recognise the importance of cooperation in developing the halal industry, given its growing significance in the global economy.

In a joint statement yesterday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Kyrgyz Republic President Sadyr Zhaparov expressed their intent for the agencies and organisations of both countries to jointly develop the halal industry.

“The parties will promote the development of common norms and standards in the halal production and services sector, as well as the development of necessary infrastructure, including laboratories and training centres, activate the exchange of experience and best practices in certification, production, and distribution of halal goods and services,” the leaders stated after a four-eyed meeting at the Ala Archa State Residence here.

Both leaders also acknowledged that development of trade and economic relations was a key aspect of strengthening cooperation between the countries.

They agreed to create favourable conditions to boost bilateral trade so as to attract investors and facilitate business ventures between both countries.

“The leaders recognised the importance of organising trade missions and exhibitions to stimulate business communities and

create new trading opportunities.

“They will actively encourage and facilitate the organising of such events to promote a multitude of sectors and services, as well as to strengthen business ties between representatives of the business communities of the two countries.”

The statement further highlighted the fact that Anwar and Zhaparov recognised the potential that exists for bilateral cooperation in the food and manufacturing industries, and expressed their readiness for joint ventures, technology transfer and investment in the upgrading and expansion of these sectors.

Both leaders agreed that establishing direct air connectivity was crucial to the development of trade and economic relations, with parties supporting and encouraging negotiations between the airlines of both countries to open new direct air routes.

Malaysia and the Kyrgyz Republic recognised the importance of developing sustainable tourism in strengthening cultural and business ties between the two states.

The leaders agreed to exchange experiences and information on digitalisation to enhance the positioning of both countries.

Anwar is on a two-day official visit to the Kyrgyz Republic at the invitation of its president. **Berna-**

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