

TikTok pledges to address issues

LIMA: Social media giant TikTok has assured the government that it will look into issues of cyberbullying, scams and slander on its platform, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said TikTok chief executive officer Shou Zi Chew conveyed the company's commitment during their 30-minute meeting on the sidelines of the Apec Economic Leaders Week.

Anwar also said TikTok voiced its readiness to work with the Communications Ministry, Malaysian

Communications and Multimedia Commission and Bank Negara Malaysia.

The meeting, he said, also discussed Putrajaya's social media regulatory framework, which, among others, will require platforms like TikTok to obtain a licence and adhere to more stringent guidelines in the interest of users.

"We discussed the collaboration between the government and TikTok in Malaysia, and they said they would significantly increase their investments."

Separately, TikTok said it supported Malaysia's chairmanship of Asean next year.

It was previously reported that social media platforms may face penalties or legal action if they fail to remove inappropriate posts once licensing requirements are enforced next year.

However, Communications Minister Fahmi Fadzil has said that the government had no plans to block access to social media platforms that have not applied for a licence.