

PM on working visit to China

Anwar to attend business expo in Shanghai and meet Xi in Beijing

SHANGHAI: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will undertake a working visit to China from today until Thursday at the invitation of Premier Li Qiang to attend the 7th China International Import Expo (7th CIIE) in Shanghai.

Malaysia has been chosen as the country of honour at the 7th CIIE this year, said Wisma Putra.

Anwar will be accompanied by Foreign Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan; Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul

Aziz; and Human Resources Minister Steven Sim, the ministry said in a statement yesterday.

In Shanghai, the Prime Minister is scheduled to meet Premier Li to deliberate on bilateral matters following their meeting in Putrajaya on June 19.

"They are also expected to exchange views on regional and international issues of mutual concern and interest," Wisma Putra said in the statement, as reported by Bernama.

The CIIE is an initiative by the government of China to provide a

platform for countries involved in its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to promote and export products and services to the country.

During the 7th CIIE opening ceremony, Anwar will deliver a speech and officiate the Malaysia Pavilion and the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (ACCCIM) Pavilion.

The Prime Minister will also participate in various one-on-one business meetings and hold a roundtable session with captains of industry from China, it added.

According to Wisma Putra, Anwar will visit Beijing for two days from Wednesday where he is scheduled to pay a courtesy call on President Xi Jinping.

He will also deliver a talk entitled "Bridging Futures: Strengthening Malaysia-China Relations and Asean Centrality in a Shifting Global Order" at Peking University, and visit the Huawei Executive Briefing Centre.

"This visit will enhance the strong bilateral ties as Malaysia and China celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment

of diplomatic relations this year," said the ministry.

For 15 consecutive years since 2009, China has been Malaysia's largest trading partner globally.

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

As of September 2024, the recorded total trade was RM355.15bil (US\$76.72bil).

In the first half of 2024, 15 manufacturing projects were implemented with investment totalling RM1.2bil (US\$252.5mil).