

Anwar on four-day working visit to China

> PM to attend 7th China International Import Expo in Shanghai, meet Premier Li Qiang for bilateral talks and call on President Xi Jinping says ministry

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

The Foreign Ministry said in a statement yesterday Malaysia will be the Country of Honour at the 7th CIIE this year.

Anwar will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Zafrul Abdul Aziz and Human Resources Minister Steven Sim.

Anwar is scheduled to meet Li to deliberate 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," the statement added.

CIIE is an initiative by China to provide a platform for countries involved in its Belt and Road Initiative to promote and export products and services to the country.

During its opening ceremony, Anwar will deliver a speech and officiate at the Malaysia pavilion and the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia pavilion.

He will also participate in several one-on-one business meetings and hold a roundtable session with captains of industry

from China.

According to the statement, Anwar will also visit Beijing for two days from Nov 6, where he is scheduled to pay a courtesy call on President Xi Jinping, Bernama reported.

He will also deliver a talk titled "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."

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

In 2023, total trade with China was valued at RM450.84 billion, contributing 17.1% of Malaysia's global trade.

As of September this year, the recorded total trade was RM355.15 billion, while in the first half of 2024, a total of 15 manufacturing projects were implemented, with investments totalling RM1.2 billion.