

Malaysia, Russia want immediate end to Israeli aggression

VLADIVOSTOK: Malaysia and Russia agree that Israel should immediately stop the violent and cruel attacks on Gaza, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said.

Anwar and Russian President Vladimir Putin also agreed that the international community must step up pressure to end Israel's ruthless genocidal campaigns in Gaza.

Malaysia, Anwar said, rejected Israel's accusation that Egypt was using its borders to smuggle weapons into Palestine for Hamas fighters, and considered it merely an irresponsible provocation by the Zionist regime.

At the same time, Malaysia respected the steps taken by Egypt

to channel humanitarian aid, food and medicine to Gaza, said Anwar, in response to the accusations made by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu against Egypt.

Anwar was speaking to the Malaysian media ahead of the 9th Eastern Economic Forum (EEF 2024)'s plenary session to wrap up his visit yesterday.

Anwar held a bilateral meeting with Putin on Wednesday.

Netanyahu had, on Sept 2, accused Egypt of allowing weapons to be smuggled to Hamas through its border.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry had said his accusations were an attempt to hinder mediation efforts to reach a Gaza ceasefire and

prisoner swap deal.

Jordan, Qatar, Palestine and Kuwait on Wednesday also condemned Israeli's accusations.

Anwar said Egypt under the leadership of President Fatah El-Sisi was meticulous, and was not easy to provoke.

He said its decision to continue distributing humanitarian aid must be respected by all parties.

He added that Israel had often tried to blame the rest of the world for not siding with its actions, and the latest is Egypt.

"As long as Egypt emphasises the importance of humanitarian aid, that is what Israel is trying to prevent. Now a new postulate is used, one world is wrong, now

they are trying to put the blame on Egypt.

"Everyone knows that Egypt is very careful not to be seen as provoking, so some people feel unhappy with Egypt. But my experience with President Fatah is very good," he said.

Meanwhile, Anwar said the war in Russia and Ukraine must be stopped immediately and resolved through negotiations.

He said this was conveyed directly to Putin during their bilateral meeting and dinner session on Wednesday.

"We touched on the issue of Ukraine, and we urge that there is a willingness between the two sides to hold negotiations to resolve this issue.