

INTERESTS PROTECTED

PM: Malaysia firm on helping Gaza

GOMBAK: Malaysia will continue advocating for Gaza while protecting its interests, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Malaysia had done its best, despite the issue remaining unresolved, he said.

“We will continue to champion the issue of Gaza and voice strong support while safeguarding our national interests because, without economic strength and wealth, we cannot help them.

“At the same time, we must also put our house in order — stop corruption and abuse of power, ensure good governance, and protect the interests of our peo-

ple,” he said at an event with students at the International Islamic University Malaysia yesterday.

In response to a question on whether Malaysia’s vocal stance on Palestine had affected relations with Western nations, Anwar said: “No, because we make it clear that we are a trading nation.

“The No. 1 investor is still the United States. Our major exports go to the US, followed by China and Germany. We will continue to express our displeasure and differences of opinion.”

In a statement later, Anwar said the PKR election — from yesterday until April 20 — should not

divide party members, but instead strengthen party unity.

Anwar said the party’s democratic process must be enhanced and conducted ethically to safeguard its future.

Anwar, who is expected to continue as PKR president, urged members to vote for leaders with integrity and committed to voicing out the people’s concerns.

A total of 8,040 members, or 2.7 per cent of the total, would cast physical ballot, while the rest would vote online through the ADIL application, said PKR election committee chairman Datuk Seri Dr Zaliha Mustafa on Wednesday.