

Anwar to meet Pakistan, Maldives and Kosovo leaders

IPOH: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said he will meet the leaders of Pakistan, the Maldives and Kosovo to discuss challenges in global trade following the United States' latest imposition of tariffs.

"In my discussions with Asean leaders, more recently with Chinese President Xi Jinping and in the coming days with the presidents of the Maldives, Kosovo and Pakistan, who will be visiting Malaysia, we agreed that the most important thing is to build our internal, domestic capacity," he said at the launch of the Sultan Azlan Shah Airport upgrade project here yesterday.

The Tambun member of parliament stressed the importance of boosting public confidence in Malaysia's ability to be self-reliant and resilient.

"We must build the confidence of the people that we can grow with our own strength and by expanding networks in Asia with China, India, Australia, Japan and South Korea, while opening up new markets in Europe. Now, we are also getting closer to Brazil.

"Just two nights ago, I was in an online discussion with United Nations secretary-general Antonio Guterres and the presidents of



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim greeting people at the Santuni Kasih programme at SMJK Poi Lam in Ipoh yesterday.

NSTP PIC BY L. MANIMARAN

Brazil and Turkiye. We discussed ways to expand our markets and boost domestic tourism."

He said intra-Asean tourism remained a key area of focus, with regional leaders committed to deepening cooperation.

On a separate matter, Anwar said there was no place for bullying and racism in schools.

He said a better future for Malaysia hinged on elevating the quality of education and instilling moral values in youth.

"I have informed the Education

Ministry, Higher Education Ministry and all school principals and headmasters that if Malaysia is to have a better future, the quality of education must improve.

"Yet we still receive reports from time to time about bad behaviour among students. Bullying, insulting one another, mocking others due to their skin colour or race. This is not the behaviour of educated people.

"A Malay child is my child. A Chinese child is my child. An In-

dian child is my child. An Orang Asli child is my child," he said in his speech at the Santuni Kasih programme at SMJK Poi Lam here yesterday.

On the Sultan Azlan Shah Airport upgrade, he said it would strengthen Perak's position as a key regional hub for trade, industry and tourism.

He commended Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd for enhancing the airport's capacity through strategic investments that did not burden the government's coffers.