'Economic growth, unity attract investors'

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia's significant economic growth, capabilities in the public and private sectors, and unity are seen as key factors in attracting investments.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said such matters could be seen through the numerous official visits of several world leaders to Malaysia.

"Where else in the world can you find a society composed of different races and religions living together peacefully? Malaysia is among the best for this uniqueness.

"Which country has faced setbacks, been weakened by scandals, faced the Covid-19 pandemic, and risen again?

"With good economic growth, high investments, the establishment of artificial intelligence (AI) centres, data centres and semiconductor hubs, we are witnessing continuous visits from world leaders," he said in his keynote address at the launch of the refurbished Alamanda Shopping Centre.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, added that many world leaders were expected to visit Malaysia to foster bilateral relations this year.

This, he said, included Chinese President Xi Jinping and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Meanwhile, touching on Ramadan, Anwar said the holy month should serve as a platform for the Muslim community in the country to enhance their spiritual values.

He said Ramadan was an ideal time for people to give back to the community, where programmes to help those in need, including orphans and the underprivileged, are held.

"Fasting teaches us the meaning of hunger and thirst because many struggle with hardship.

"But if we fast, indulge in excessive feasting, and neglect those who have little to eat, without giving charity or engaging in community work, fasting is less significant.

"Perhaps during Ramadan, when we hold *iftar* gatherings, we can invite children from orphanages or those in need from nearby areas so that they too can experience the blessings that we enjoy.

"If such small efforts are carried out by tens of thousands of people, they will benefit hundreds of thousands."