

AIMS TO ATTRACT 100 PROJECTS

PM: JOHOR-SINGAPORE SEZ 'TRULY UNIQUE'

'Rare for 2 nations to team up to promote mutual economic growth, investments'

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THE Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone (JS-SEZ) is a unique and rare economic initiative between two neighbouring countries aimed at boosting investments.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said the project, which officially kicked off yesterday, was guided by clear economic policies and a well-defined approach to addressing social investment concerns.

"The SEZ is truly a unique initiative. It is rare to see two countries collaborating as a team to promote mutual economic growth and attract investments.

"This initiative not only brings clarity to economic policies, but also ensures a well-structured approach to social investment concerns. Both governments are being selective to ensure that investments align with future needs and priorities.

"The JS-SEZ initiative is a testament to the significant incentives for businesses to expand their operations, alongside financial and infrastructure incentives provided through this cooperation," he said during a joint press conference with Singapore Prime Minister Lawrence Wong.

Earlier, both prime ministers

witnessed the exchange of a joint agreement document on JS-SEZ between Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli and Singaporean Deputy Prime Minister and Trade and Industry Minister Gan Kim Yong.

JS-SEZ aims to attract 100 projects within 10 years. It covers an area of 357,128ha, including the Iskandar development zone, Forest City, Pengerang Integrated Petroleum Complex and Desaru.

Wong said the initiative sent a message to investors to consider the complementary advantages between Johor, Singapore and the JS-SEZ ecosystem.

"There are numerous strengths that can be leveraged from both countries to enhance value-added activities and make JS-SEZ more competitive and attractive for business operations.

"From Singapore's side, we have engaged with numerous businesses that are very interested in expanding their activities in Johor. We already have incentives for businesses looking to grow internationally.

"We also have market facilitation programmes and grants that Singaporean businesses can utilise to expand their operations in Johor, aligned with their activities in Singapore."

The two leaders also witnessed the exchange of six memoranda of understanding covering areas such as climate change and carbon storage, education, women and social welfare, and efforts to combat transnational crime.

Wong was accorded an official welcoming ceremony at the Perdana Putra Complex in Putrajaya, followed by a luncheon hosted by Anwar.