

ASEAN ALL-STARS TEAM VERSUS MANCHESTER UNITED

Anwar: Friendly match to serve as symbol of unity

PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim described the upcoming friendly match between the Asean All-Stars team and Manchester United at the National Stadium in Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur, on May 28 as a symbol of regional solidarity and aspiration.

Anwar said the Asean All-Stars team, led by a coach from Vietnam, would not only test physical prowess but also serve as a symbol of unity.

“Vietnam Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh will not be able to attend, I am trying to persuade him to come because this match holds great significance.”

“The match against Manch-

ester United represents the Asean spirit. It will not be an easy task but it proves our regional confidence and cooperation,” said Anwar at a joint press conference with Chinh during his official visit to Malaysia yesterday.

Anwar also teased Chinh on the match between Malaysia and Vietnam on June 10.

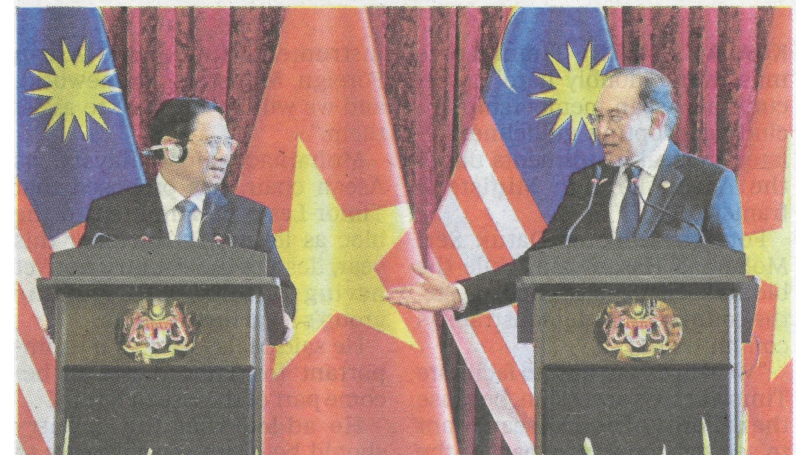
“I have informed Prime Minister Chinh not to be too confident because this time, we are truly ready. Vietnam is indeed a great team but we have the spirit and resilience to provide a challenge.

“If we (Malaysia) win, I will call him, but if we lose, I will go straight to sleep,” he said, drawing laughter from Chinh.

Earlier, they witnessed the exchange of three documents to strengthen cooperation in the fields of energy, education and regional integration.

They included a memorandum of understanding between Tenaga Nasional Bhd and Vietnam Electricity on the Asean Power Grid and strategic capacity development.

Others were a letter of intent for cooperation between Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City, and a letter of note between UKM and Vietnam National University, Hanoi, focusing on strategic collaborations and Asean integration between Malaysia and Vietnam.



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim with his Vietnamese counterpart Pham Minh Chinh in Putrajaya yesterday, NSTP PIC BY MOHD FADLI HAMZAH