

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

PM: SUMMIT SUCCESS THANKS TO EFFICIENCY, TEAMWORK

Outstanding commitment shown by govt machinery, says Anwar

HAKIM MAHARI
PUTRAJAYA
news@nst.com.my

MALAYSIA'S successful hosting of the 46th Asean Summit was driven by the efficiency, dedication and teamwork of all parties involved, said the prime minister.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, said the smooth running of the summit was the result of the extraordinary commitment shown by the government machinery and the public, who understood Malaysia's responsibilities as host.

"I saw excellence at all levels, our public servants were outstanding... from the airport, parades, police, Immigration, Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd, hotel management, to the Foreign Ministry coordinating everything, and the Prime Minister's Department managing the protocol.

"Even I was overwhelmed by the protocol, but I respected

what the officers directed the prime minister to do. I followed everything. Why? Because we are a nation with rules, and we work as a team," he said at the Prime Minister's Department monthly assembly yesterday.

Present were deputy prime ministers Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof.

Anwar also commended the cooperation among Asean leaders in making collective decisions while respecting the interests of their respective countries.

"We had to decide on a shared understanding in facing (United States) President (Donald

Trump's tariffs.

"Each country has its own strategy, which will involve bilateral relations. But we also want to safeguard the interests of the more than 650 million people in Asean countries.

"No decision made by Malaysia should harm other countries, nor should decisions by, for example, Vietnam, be detrimental to others. We work as a team," he added.

The Asean Summit concluded on Tuesday, following a series of high-level meetings focused on enhancing regional cooperation and strengthening strategic partnerships.

Over the two-day event, Asean



leaders participated in several key meetings, including the 2nd Asean-Gulf Cooperation Council Summit, the inaugural Asean-GCC-China Summit and the 16th Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle Summit.

As Asean chair for 2025, Malaysia hosted the summit under the theme "Inclusion and Sustainability".

This marked the fifth time the country has held the chairmanship, having previously served in 1977, 1997, 2005 and 2015.