

# 'NEW WAVE OF U.S. INVESTMENTS LIKELY'

About 15 firms express an interest after Trump's visit last month, says Anwar



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**M**ALAYSIA is set for a potential fresh wave of major investments, with about 15 leading United States companies expressing interest in expanding their footprint or facilitating new ventures.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday said this came about following United States President Donald Trump's attendance at the 47th Asean Summit in Kuala Lumpur last month.

"We met the US Business Coalition, which includes major American companies looking to either expand their investments or propose measures to facilitate US investments in Malaysia.

"This follows President Donald Trump's visit to Malaysia."

Anwar said this after concluding his three-day working visit in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) Economic Leaders' Meeting.

He said the companies included Microsoft, Amazon Web Services, Philip Morris International and JPMorgan Chase.

"The companies span various sectors, such as pharmaceuticals, semiconductors and financial services, involving 15 to 16 firms," he said, commenting on the outcome of the Apec-US Business Coalition meeting yesterday.

He said Malaysia's rare earths industry was set for a major boost with the development of a RM600 million high-powered magnet manufacturing facility by JS Link, in collaboration with Lynas Malaysia in Pahang.



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim at a press conference after the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Economic Leaders' Meeting in South Korea yesterday. With him are Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan (left) and Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz. **BERNAMA PIC**

Anwar said preliminary preparations for the project had been completed and he would meet Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail to discuss further progress.

"This is no longer just a memorandum of understanding — the investment has been made.

"The government's focus is to expedite the process so that the project can proceed as soon as possible."

He added that Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Zafrul Abdul Aziz was scheduled to visit the project site tomorrow to help fast-track its implementation.

Anwar had earlier met JS Link chief executive officer Lee Jun Young and Lynas Malaysia managing director Datuk Seri Marshal Ahmad, with Tengku Zafrul in attendance.

In a statement on X, Anwar said the high-impact collaboration would strengthen Malaysia's position in the clean technology and advanced materials ecosystem.

It would also support the creation of a stable, sustainable and resilient critical minerals supply chain for the production of electric vehicles (EVs), renewable energy and other high-technology industries.

In July, Lynas Rare Earths Ltd signed an initial agreement with JS Link to develop a production facility capable of producing up to 3,000 tonnes of neodymium-iron-boron permanent magnets near the Lynas plant in Kuantan.

Anwar said that Number

Chemical Corporation had agreed to increase its imports of raw materials from Malaysia — worth RM500 million — including phosphate rock, potassium chloride and green ammonia for chemical fertiliser production.

Namhae Chemical, a subsidiary of the Nonghyup Group, is South Korea's largest chemical fertiliser producer, commanding a 42 per cent market share and exporting its products to more than 20 countries.

Earlier, Anwar, in his speech at the Apec Economic Leaders' Meeting, said that progress in artificial intelligence (AI) and technological transformations should not be at the expense of the nation's moral compass and the environment.

Apec economies, he said, should take note of their accessibility and digital divide to ensure that there are no discriminatory practices in terms of the use of new technology.

He said as Apec economies build the infrastructure for an AI-enabled economy, it must match that ambition with commitments to renewable energy, sustainability and responsible stewardship.

He said data centre growth, for example, must move in tandem with the green agenda and the duty to protect the well-being of future generations.

"Our goal is not a world where machines define our destiny. It is a future where AI amplifies human creativity, strengthens communities and enriches the human spirit."