

# Asean-China ties built on trust guided by peace: PM

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia and China reaffirmed their close ties at the Asean-China Summit, with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim underscoring trust dialogue and cooperation as the cornerstones of regional stability.

In his opening remarks, Anwar welcomed Chinese Premier Li Qiang and highlighted the importance of Asean centrality.

"If people are curious, the day before we were with United States President Donald Trump and today we are back with China. This reflects Asean centrality? he said, commending Asean members for maintaining friendly relations with all major powers.

Anwar noted the significance of the upgraded ACFTA 3.0, calling it a milestone in economic cooperation and a key step forward in regional integration.

On Facebook, Anwar shared that his meeting with Li focused on strengthening bilateral trade and investment

"The meeting further cements Malaysia-China friendship built on trust and mutual respect - a symbol of a stronger bilateral relationship that contributes to regional stability."

He reaffirmed Malaysia's commitment to expanding high-value exports in sectors such as electronics, aerospace, medical technology, renewable energy, and oil and gas under the Belt and Road Initiative.

Key projects including the Automotive Hi-Tech Valley in Tanjung Malim (a product of Proton-Geely cooperation), the East Coast Rail Link expansion and port collaborations were also discussed. Anwar said these projects could position Malaysia as a regional logistics and maritime hub.

He also welcomed continued Chinese investment in digital, semiconductor and green technology.

The meeting also covered regional peace efforts, including the Kuala Lumpur Peace Accord between Cambodia and Thailand.

"Premier Li expressed China's support for the peace efforts - a triumph of Asean diplomacy in upholding peace through trust and dialogue," Anwar wrote.