

PM conferred Turkish highest state honour

ANKARA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim was conferred the Order of the Republic, Turkiye's highest state honour, in recognition of his role in strengthening bilateral ties between Malaysia and the republic.

The recognition was presented on Wednesday by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan during a ceremony held at the Presidential Complex here in conjunction with Anwar's three-day official visit to the republic, which began on Tuesday.

Also present at the conferment ceremony were Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir and Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani.

Malaysian Ambassador to Turkiye Sazali Mustafa Kamal said the award was the republic's highest form of recognition

Order of the Republic presented by Erdogan in recognition of Anwar's role in strengthening bilateral ties

bestowed on a foreign leader.

Anwar said in a statement that he accepted the 'conferment with deep gratitude and humility, not in a personal capacity but on behalf of all Malaysians, Bernama reported.

"This conferment also symbolises the close friendship that has long been forged between the two countries, founded on trust, mutual respect and shared aspirations for global peace and prosperity."

He expressed hope that the recognition would continue to serve as a catalyst to strengthen Malaysia-Turkiye cooperation across various strategic fields for the benefit of the people of both countries.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, is on an official visit to Turkiye at the invitation of Erdogan as part of Malaysia's efforts to further enhance the long-standing bilateral relations between the two countries.

Malaysia's total trade with Turkiye from January to November 2025 amounted to RM21.2 billion, with the republic continuing to be an important economic partner for Malaysia.

In 2024, Turkiye was Malaysia's third-largest trading partner, largest export destination and fourth-largest source of imports among West Asian countries, with total trade valued at RM24.15 billion.



Anwar being conferred the Order of the Republic by Erdogan in Anakara on Wednesday.
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