

MEDIA RELEASE

PROPOSED BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND INDIA IN DAVOS

In light of misleading reports by certain news sites, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry would like to issue the following clarification.

Both Malaysian Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and Indian Ministry of Railways and Commerce & Industry have been in communication for a possible bilateral meeting between the two Ministers on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum Davos from 21 to 24 January 2020. This request for bilateral meeting was initiated by the Indian Ministry through an official request on 24 December 2019. The meeting is to discuss bilateral and regional trade and investment issues. At no point has either country refused to meet with the other.

In the spirit of economic partnership between our two nations, Malaysia has made every effort to accommodate the official request by India, but due to the busy schedule of both Ministers, a mutually agreeable time has not been reached at the time of this statement. In the absence of a formal meeting, it is common for interested parties to meet informally and exchange views on the sidelines.

Minister YB Datuk Darell Leiking has expressed his openness to such discussion with his counterpart H.E. Piyush Goyal, Indian Minister for Railways and Commerce & Industry, in particular with regards to India's participation in the ASEAN-led Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

In 2018, India was the 10th largest trading partner for Malaysia. Total trade with India increased by 2.2% to RM62.76 billion from RM61.38 billion in 2017. India was also the largest trading partner, export destination and import source for Malaysia among the South Asian countries. In term of investment, India is one of Malaysia's major sources of foreign investments. As of December 2018, 258 approved investments in the manufacturing sector added up to RM9.30 billion and are expected to create 27,042 employments.

Ministry of International Trade and Industry
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
20 January 2020

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**MINISTRY OF
INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

About MITI:

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry was established in April 1956 then was renamed as The Ministry of Trade and Industry in February 1972. On 27 October 1990, the Ministry was separated into two Ministries which are; Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs (KPDN).

MITI is the key driver in making Malaysia the preferred destination for quality investments and enhancing the nation's rising status as a globally competitive trading nation

Media enquiries

**Ministry of International Trade & Industry
Strategic Communications Unit**

Tel +603 6200 0083

Fax +603 6206 4293

E-mail allpegkomunikasikorporat@miti.gov.my