

Fruit of bilateralism

Malaysia-India reaps numerous benefits from its strengthened two-way relationships. India was Malaysia largest export in south Asean region for locally made products in 1998. Bilateralism between two nations was enhanced more with tremendous progress in trade, which saw four-fold increase between 2003 and 2015.

Besides, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak has cited last year that India is Malaysia's tenth largest trade partner. The domestic manufacturing plan initiated through India's cooperation, has created thousands of job opportunities, simultaneously has created a strong FDI platform for both countries. In 2014, Malaysia's FDI in India produced to the tune of US\$1.77bil (RM7.22bil).

At present, Kuala Lumpur and New Delhi are experiencing the benefit drawn from Comprehensive Economic Cooperation agreement inked by both countries in 2011. During Indian PM Narendra Modi's visit to Malaysia in last November, Modi declared strengthening the partnership strategy.

Apart from that, Malaysia-India has been sharing culture bilateralism ever since their diplomatic ties bloomed, and gradually it led to a mutual cooperation in all aspects. In a nutshell, Malaysia-India ties have to be robust with more new foundations added in it.