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MAHATHIR-TOURISM
BM

85 (P)
KUCHING, AUG 15 (BERNAMA) -- (DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS URGED THOSE INVOLVED IN THE TOURIST INDUSTRY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE COUNTRY'S NATURAL SCENIC BEAUTY TO ATTRACT TOURISTS.

THEY CAN ALSO MAKE USE OF LOCAL ART AND CRAFT AS TOURIST ATTRACTIONS TO BRING IN MORE VISITORS TO THE COUNTRY, HE SAYS IN THE SOUVENIR MAGAZINE TO MARK THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE EXTENSION TO THE HOLIDAY INN OF KUCHING.

THE PRIME MINISTER IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN THE EXTENSION TO THE HOTEL NEXT WEEK.

THE COUNTRY'S SCENIC BEAUTY AND LOCAL ART AND CRAFT COULD BE MADE USE OF BY THOSE INVOLVED IN THE TOURIST INDUSTRY INCLUDING HOTELIERS TO BRING IN MORE FOREIGN VISITORS TO THE COUNTRY, HE SAYS.

HE ALSO URGES THEM TO SAFEGUARD AND MAINTAIN SCENIC SPOTS IN THE COUNTRY SO THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN AS TOURIST ATTRACTIONS.

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1754MST 15 08 85

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MAHATHIR-TOURISM 2 KUCHING

THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE NATION'S TOURIST INDUSTRY HAS BEEN WELL RECEIVED BY ALL QUARTERS PARTICULARLY THE TOUR OPERATORS THEMSELVES, HE SAYS.

+THE EXTENSION TO THE HOLIDAY INN IS PROOF OF THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR QUALITY HOTEL ACCOMMODATION.+

SARAWAK CHIEF MINISTER DATUK PATINGGI HAJI ABDUL TAIB MAHMUD IN HIS MESSAGE SAYS THE STATE GOVERNMENT VIEWS THE TOURIST INDUSTRY AS VITAL TO THE STATE.

HE SAYS EFFORTS ARE BEING INTENSIFIED TO ATTRACT MORE TOURISTS TO VISIT THE STATE.

THEREFORE THERE IS A NEED TO ENSURE ADEQUATE ACCOMMODATION IN ANTICIPATION OF THE RISE IN DEMAND FOR SUCH FACILITIES, HE ADDS.

--BERNAMA

1758MST 15 08 85