

08 NOV 1998  
Apec-Retreat  
APEC LEADERS TO HOLD RETREAT AT CYBERJAYA

CYBERJAYA, Nov 8 (Bernama) -- Some of the world's most powerful people including United States President Bill Clinton will feast themselves to the famous "satay Kajang" during their retreat after the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) Summit at the Cyberview Lodge here on Nov 18.

Other items on their luncheon menu include "soto ayam", an exotic Malaysian chicken soup, fried fragrant rice "Kampung style" and "ayam percik".

"It is a Muhibah set lunch," said Cyberview Lodge general manager Maleia Marsden as Apec leaders gather in Kuala Lumpur on Nov 17 for their annual meeting.

She said the Apec leaders would also be treated to tropical fresh fruits.

The Apec summit kicks off with an informal senior officials meeting on Nov 12-13, followed by the informal ministerial meeting on Nov 14-15. The actual summit of leaders will be on Nov 17-18.

All these meetings will be held at the Palace of the Golden Horses Hotel in Sungai Besi, Kuala Lumpur.

Apec currently has 18 members -- Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and the United States.

Three more members -- Russia, Peru and Vietnam -- are to join the forum at the Kuala Lumpur meeting.

Among those whose confirmed attendance has been reported in the press are President Bill Clinton of the United States, Prime Minister John Howard of Australia, Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai of Thailand, President B.J.Habibie of Indonesia, President Joseph Estrada of the Philippines and Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Canada.

Cyberview Lodge is located in the heart of Cyberjaya, some 40km south of Kuala Lumpur.

Cyberjaya, a core component of the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC), is located on a 2,800-ha site. The city, which is being developed using the environment-friendly concept, is situated five kilometres north of Dengkil at the road towards Puchong.

Next to it is Putrajaya, the federal government's new administrative centre, on a 7,000-ha site.

Marsden said the leaders were scheduled to arrive at the lodge at 8.15am and would proceed to the "Songket" room at about 9.15am for their retreat meeting to be chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"They (and their spouses) will be provided with a room each," she said. She said security would also be their top priority.

The lodge has also sufficient manpower to handle all the requirements of their guests, she said, adding that the lodge will be closed (for the public) at noon on Nov 17 and will reopen at 7pm the following day.

She said workers have been busy during the past few days putting the final touches to ensure that nothing went wrong.

Marsden, who has wide experience in hotel management, said a new access road leading to the lodge will be opened soon.

"We are at present doing landscaping work along that stretch," she said.

Yesterday, Dr Mahathir took time off from his busy schedule to visit the lodge to ensure everything is set to greet the world leaders. He was briefed by Marsden.

Marsden said she was looking forward and was very excited to receive the Apec leaders.

"From now on, it's all systems go," she added.

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