

Mahathir invites tourists to visit Malaysia

5 28/10/97
LANGKAWI: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad invited foreign tourists yesterday to take advantage of a unique "three-in-one" element Malaysia offered them.

He said they could give China, India and Indonesia a miss in their travel plans as Malaysia had the best of all these countries.

"You don't have to go to China to see their culture, you can forget about going to India to taste their food and you can also skip Indonesia as we have all that right here.

"In Malaysia, you can find elements of China, India and Indonesia and their specialities as Malays, Chinese and Indians make up the majority of our people.

"This is what I term as a 'three-in-one' offer," he said when launching the *Make It Langkawi* travel mart at the Mahsuri International Exhibition Centre yesterday.

The promotional programme, aimed at positioning the island as a preferred holiday and convention destination, was jointly organised by Malaysia Airlines (MAS) and the Langkawi Development Authority (Lada).

Dr Mahathir said foreigners should also take advantage of the low exchange rates in Malaysia, especially in Langkawi.

He said they should not be deceived by media reports which claimed that Malaysia was an unstable country where riots and demonstrations were a daily affair.

"You are here now and you can tell them what you see," he added.

Speaking to about 20 foreign journalists who were specially flown in for the event, Dr Mahathir said he was not thinking about the things he could enjoy as a prime minister.

"What I am thinking about is the long-term future of this country."