

21/08/1999

Fantastic response to Expo Cintai Malaysia

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Public response to the Expo Cintai Malaysia has exceeded expectations with an estimated 460,000 visitors, both local and foreign, having turned up since last Friday in a concentrated bid to "buy Malaysian".

Chairman of the expo's organising committee, Kerk Loong Sing, said with the good response, total sales generated during the 10-day exposition was expected to surpass the RM20 million of last year.

"It is heartening to see Malaysians giving their full support for local products.

"Our sales target is RM50 million, and this does not include sales and exports after the expo period.

"The sales volume for the first three days of the expo this year was equivalent to the volume of the first 10 days of the expo last year.

"On the first day of the expo on Aug 13, there were 40,000 visitors, on the second day 60,000, the third day which is a Sunday registered 120,000, fourth day 50,000, fifth 60,000 and 65,000 on the sixth day and yesterday respectively.

"The foreign visitors are from Asean countries, China, Europe, Australia and Africa."

Kerk said this at a Press conference at the expo venue at the Mines International Exhibition and Showroom today.

The expo, which was opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, is organised by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor, and Output Combination Sdn Bhd. Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi visited the expo yesterday.

Showcasing Malaysian-made products from electronic to food items at 615 booths, the expo is open from 11am to 10pm. Admission is free.

On parking and traffic problems around the expo venue, which was particularly acute last Sunday, Kerk said it had been rectified. "More signages have been put up and more traffic policemen will be assisting us. There is also ample parking space.

"There are 5,500 covered and 4,500 uncovered parking lots."

After the Press conference, an adviser to the expo's organising committee Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew launched a relief fund for victims of the recent earthquake in Turkey. A box will be placed at the expo's main entrance until Sunday for the public to make their contributions.

Country Heights Group was the first donor with a RM10,000 contribution.

A best decorated booth award was presented to National Panasonic (M) Sdn Bhd for its creativity. National Panasonic corporate public relations department manager Priscilla Lee accepted the award - a RM1,000 cheque.

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