

19 MAR 1999  
MIFF-SALES  
FURNITURE FAIR REGISTERS RM1.577 IN EXPORT SALES

KUALA LUMPUR, March 19 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian International Furniture Fair '99 which ended March 6, has generated a hefty RM1.577 billion (US\$415 million) in export furniture sales, said Primary Industries Minister Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik.

The sales came from 4,986 foreign visitors, who visited the exposition, held at the Putra World Trade Centre recently, he said.

Dr Lim was speaking at a press conference to announce the Love Malaysia Expo '99 to be held at the Mines Convention and Exhibition centre from Aug 13 to 22, 1999.

Following the overwhelming respond at MIFF'99, Dr Lim urged Malaysian exhibition organisers to organise more exhibitions to attract foreign buyers, saying "foreigners do not just look around, but they are coming to buy."

Apart from this, Dr Lim also said that Malaysia has many potential businesses with varieties of products that it can promote, not just to attract retail business but also export markets.

Furthermore, he said event organisers should look for bigger exhibition space to cater to international standard exhibitions.

Dr Lim also added that he had discussed with Malaysian Airport Berhad (MAB) to look for better way to privatise the existing exhibition centre at the Terminal One of the former international airport, Sultan Abdul Aziz or expanding the size.

On the Love Malaysia Expo '99, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed will officiate the second annual event which will be organised by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor (KLSCCCI).

Chairman of the expo, Mew Jin Seng, who is also vice president of KLSCCCI, said that about 500 participants will participate in the nine-day event. So far, 82 companies have confirmed their participation. -- BERNAMA

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