

15 AUG 2002

Siti Hasmah-Award

SITI HASMAH CONFERRED CIM COMPANION OF HONOUR AWARD

PUTRAJAYA, Aug 15 (Bernama) -- Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali was today conferred the Companion of Honour award by the Malaysian Association of Chartered Institute of Marketing, the first woman recipient of the award.

The award was presented by the association's president, Datuk Dr James Alfred, at a special ceremony at the prime minister's official residence, Seri Perdana.

Dr Siti Hasmah is the third recipient of the award, the first a man from the European Union and the second from India.

CIM chairman Michael Woo in his citation on Dr Siti Hasmah, said she earned the award for her contributions to the nation, especially in charity, assisting the needy and marketing the country to the world.

"She has effectively sold Malaysia to the world as an ideal destination for investors," he said.

He said Dr Siti Hasmah had also used her position as the wife of the prime minister to campaign tirelessly for women's health, family planning, drug abuse and adult literacy.

"Besides accompanying her husband on domestic and foreign travels, her involvement in international bodies has helped to project a positive and progressive image of Malaysia to the world.

"She was also one of the first Malay woman doctors in Malaysia and the first woman to be appointed a medical officer in the government service for the state of Kedah, and set an example of personal and professional achievement for all women in her country," he added.

In her speech, Dr Siti Hasmah said that it was an honour for her to receive the award, especially for being the first woman recipient.

"I thank God for the honour given to me. With this award, I can tell my husband (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohammad) that I am a real companion," she said.

-- BERNAMA

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