

09/07/2002

People urged to fly the Jalur Gemilang

Zulita Mustafa

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Malaysians are being encouraged to fly the Jalur Gemilang during the month-long festivities beginning Aug 17 leading up to National Day.

Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir said this would instil a sense of nationalism and help cultivate pride and respect for the country.

"National Day is approaching ... it stands as a symbol of who we are as Malaysians and what we have achieved as a nation," he said at a Press conference at his Ministry today.

Kadir said flying the Jalur Gemilang could also unite the people of various races in the true Malaysian spirit.

The month-long Merdeka celebrations will be launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Aug 17 at Dataran Merdeka.

Kadir urged Malaysians to follow the guidelines issued by the Ministry in displaying flags and banners.

He also urged companies to distribute the Jalur Gemilang to the people.

On another note, the Ministry will hold a three-day Citrarasa Malaysia 2002 event in conjunction with the National Food and Fruits Festival 2002.

Themed Jom Makan-Makan, Citrarasa Malaysia - it will be held from 8pm to midnight from July 12-14.

More than 100 food and fruit stalls will be built at the Malaysia Tourism Centre on Jalan Ampang for this purpose.

Speaking at a Press conference, its secretary-general Tengku Datuk Alaudin Tengku Abdul Majid said the Ministry was spearheading the promotion of Malaysian food and fruits and making it a national agenda.

He said the fiesta was held to introduce the different kinds of fruit and cuisine of colourful Malaysia, which are available almost anywhere at anytime.

This would encourage social interaction among Malaysians and introduce the country's gastronomic delights to visitors, he added.

Among the activities lined up for the fiesta are the biggest dining table ice sculpture in Malaysia and a non-stop 48-hour koay teow cooking demonstration - an attempt to enter the Malaysia Book of Records.