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Mahathir-Antarctica

MAHATHIR'S ANTARCTICA EXPEDITION SOON ON ASTRO'S DISCOVERY CHANNEL

KUALA LUMPUR, March 18 (Bernama) -- "Yang (darling), look it's a plane sitting on ice," said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali during their expedition to Antarctica last year.

With a personal video camera in hand, accompanied by his family and colleagues, Dr Mahathir captured his first journey to Antarctica, which will be aired over Astro in its 30-minute programme "Postcards From A Prime Minister".

The programme will be telecast at 8pm on March 23 on Astro's Channel 11 of the Discovery Travel and Adventure Channel. The programme encores the following day from 8am.

According to Astro International Programming Manager Agnes Rozario, Astro is proud to present the programme, featuring an extraordinary seven-day journey of Dr Mahathir to the ice-covered continent of Antarctica onboard a Russian ice-breaker "Kapitan Dranitsyn". The journey started from Ushuaia, Argentina on Feb 6.

"This programme, narrated by the Prime Minister, is a first for Malaysian TV and is an excellent example of the quality edutainment programming Astro offers to its subscribers.

"And it is very amazing because Dr Mahathir did the voice over in only about two hours," she told Bernama after a premiere screening of the documentary here today.

Meanwhile, the Vice-President of Programming, Discovery Networks Asia, James Gibbons said that the programme is exactly what the Discovery Travel and Adventures channel is all about.

"We witness the surprise, delight and amazement of the PM and his travelling companions. The programme also shows a more intimate side of the PM rarely seen on television," he said.

To a question, Gibbons said the idea to produce the programme initially comes from Astro itself.

Azlina Ahmad, Astro's Features Editor, who directed, co-written and co-produced the programme, said that she was very happy to produce the programme involving the Prime Minister.

-- BERNAMA

SSA NRY AHH ABG