

12 OCT 2003

OIC-Expo (Qatar)

OIC EXPO A PLATFORM FOR QATAR TO PROMOTE 2006 ASIAN GAMES

By: Muammar Kamaruddin

PUTRAJAYA, Oct 12 (Bernama) -- Qatar, the host of the 2006 Asian Games, considers the 10th Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Expo as a suitable platform to showcase Doha's preparations for the Games.

"Hosting the Asian Games is very important to us and we came here to showcase the preparations that have been done," the Director of the Qatar Pavilion at the expo, Ahmad Ibrahim Al-Emadi said.

He said that booklets containing information on the Games were available for visitors.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will open the OIC Expo 2003 on Tuesday. The six-day expo will be held at a site adjacent to the Putrajaya Convention Centre (PCC), the venue of the 10th OIC Summit.

Apart from promoting the Games, the Qatar pavilion would also distribute pamphlets on the culture as well as the history of its people, Al-Emadi told Bernama here today.

Before the discovery of oil, he said most of the Qataris' worked as fishermen or pearl divers but things had changed.

"Now most of them work in the oil and gas sectors as well as other industries," he said.

There will be 20 companies from Qatar participating in the expo.

"These are companies in the steel, fertiliser, petrochemicals, food, building materials and perfume industries," Al-Emadi said.

Among the companies are Qatar Steel Company Ltd, Qatar Ready Made Garments Factory, Qatar Flour Mills Company and Delaime Perfume Factory.

-- BERNAMA

MK MKO AAM