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OIC-Security

PUTRAJAYA CONVENTION CENTRE NOW UNDER TOTAL SECURITY

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PUTRAJAYA, Oct 12 (Bernama) -- The Putrajaya Convention Centre (PCC), the venue of the 10th Organisation of the Islamic Conference Summit, has been placed under total security.

Hundreds of armed police personnel backed by marine boats and an unspecified number of helicopters had been strategically deployed around the PCC to provide maximum security for world leaders attending the Summit.

PCC Venue Commander Senior Assistant Commissioner 1 Muhammad Muda told Bernama that "land, water and air security" was being given top priority.

"We don't want delegates or members of the OIC secretariat exposed to any danger," said Muhammad, who is also Malaysian Marine Police Chief.

He said the 630-hectares of lakes in Putrajaya would be closely monitored to prevent intruders from getting access to the summit venue.

The Federal administrative capital of Putrajaya, a garden city built within lush greenery, sprawls over 4,931 hectares of hill country.

Referring to the site of the OIC Expo 2003, adjacent to the PCC, Muhammad said that the area too would be covered by the strict security arrangements.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will open the OIC Expo 2003 on Tuesday.

Muhammad said nearly 50 per cent of the security personnel now on duty at the PCC had served during the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Conference in February.

"We are also prepared to handle any medical, security or fire evacuation at the PCC," he said.

Apart from airlifting delegates, the lakes, where marine boats are on standby, would be another strategic escape route for delegates if any untoward incident happened, he said.

Muhammad also said foreign delegates who brought along their own security personnel were not allowed to bring any weapons into the PCC.

"We hope delegates will abide by the rules as we have briefed them in advance and we don't want their security team to disturb our security plans," he said.

A total of 8,000 security personnel are on duty in all strategic areas including highways, Kuala Lumpur city and the airport.

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VP NIM MKO AAM MKO