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KPJ-HEALTHCARE

KPJ HEALTHCARE TO MANAGE CONTINENTAL HOSPITAL IN BANGLADESH

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 6 (Bernama) -- KPJ Healthcare Bhd, homegrown healthcare group recently signed a management agreement with Continental Hospital Ltd (CHL) to manage the Continental Hospital in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

In a statement today, KPJ said the agreement was signed via its subsidiary company, Kumpulan Perubatan Johor Sdn Bhd on Dec 18, 2004.

Signing on behalf of KPJ Healthcare was managing director Datin Paduka Siti Sa'diah Sheikh Bakir while CHL managing director, Mr Faridur Rahman Khan signed on behalf of CHL.

The ceremony in Dhaka was witnessed by former Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in conjunction with the Inaugural Bangladesh Malaysia Business Forum held from Dec 17-19, 2004.

This 450-bedded hospital, super-speciality, multidisciplinary tertiary care hospital with state-of-the-art facilities is located in the exclusive area of Dhaka.

It will offer a centralized diagnostic services, it said.

The hospital is currently under construction to a "five-star private hospital" catering to the needs of those in the upper income bracket and expatriates, and is expected to start offering its services in mid 2005.

This project is to complement the government hospitals in providing healthcare services and offering better choice of medical services.

Currently, the locals are seeking treatment in India, Thailand and other foreign countries, and outflow of foreign exchange is estimated to amount to US\$300 million (RM1.140 billion) annually.

With this new development, the Bangladesh Government will reduce the outflow of money from the country.

Another stimulus effect from this project is the opportunity to offer job opportunities to the locals and enhance their economic status and well-being and opening the doors for further development with the support of good healthcare infrastructure.

Earlier KPJ had signed an agreement offering the healthcare technical consultancy and advisory on the building and commissioning of the hospital.

KPJ owns and manages 16 private specialist hospitals in Malaysia including two in Indonesia.

On other development, KPJ Healthcare today contributed cash and other basic necessities to the unfortunate victims of the recent tsunami tragedy.

KPJ Healthcare ran a donation drive internally amongst its 12 hospitals in Malaysia to meet to the dire needs of the tsunami victims and survivors.

It has announced that all its hospitals would be the collection centre for cash, medical supplies and foodstuffs.

After one week of collection period, KPJ Healthcare medical consultants, management and staff have come together to donate an amount of RM40,000 cash to MERCY Malaysia and another RM40,000 to the NSTP-BH-TV3-8TV National Tsunami Disaster Funds.

Also, Mutiara-Johor Corporation donated clothings and foodstuffs to the both relief teams.

During the opening of the Outpatient Department of Seremban Specialist Hospital on Dec 31, 2004, KPJ Healthcare has pledged a contribution of medical supplies worth of RM50,000, and another RM50,000 cash from KPJ Healthcare charity clinics, Klinik Waqaf An-Nur to Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) International Relief Funds in aid of the survivors in Malaysia, Aceh and Sri Lanka.

KPJ Healthcare through MERCY Malaysia has arranged to send a team of medical and support personnel to aid the survivors in Aceh, and later to other parts of the affected areas in need.

KPJ Healthcare feels deeply sad of the tragedy and offers condolence and prayers to all relatives who have lost their loved ones. KPJ Healthcare will offer help towards making the victims' transition to recovery less rough.

-- BERNAMA
SOR KTC