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Exhibitors, visitors give show top marks

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THE Sixth Kuala Lumpur International Motorshow at the Putra World Trade Centre proved to be a successful family-oriented exhibition, with overwhelming response from both exhibitors and visitors, said Malaysian Automotive Association (MAA) president Aishah Ahmad yesterday, the last day of the show.

"During my daily tours of the seven exhibition halls, many people, including visitors, congratulated us for a job well done. The attractions spoke for themselves," she said, adding that the 300,000 visitors targeted before the start of the motorshow was achieved.

"The highlight of the show was probably the visits by various VIPs, including Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad," said Aishah, who is also KLIMS 2003 organising committee chairman.

She said the event was not only for adults but also children, with a mini-playground and numerous children's competitions.

"We also hosted children from six charity homes to a day out at the show and offered free space for the Malaysian Charity Foundation to raise funds."

She said there was, however, room for improvement. "KLIMS 2003 is an international show and as such, we need a better and more pleasing layout by exhibitors.

"Maybe we will introduce guidelines for them the next time to make the event a truly international one."

She said floor space was also limited. "But we cannot do much about this. It would have been better to have had a few big halls."

On complaints that the ticket prices of RM15 (weekdays) and RM20 (weekends) were too high, she said it was reasonable due to the "magnitude" of the show.

"We offered visitors facilities like proper walkways, toilets and signs. We charged students RM5 and children under 12 entered free."

She said the next motorshow would probably be bigger as there would be more principal car-makers established in the country, especially with the implementation of the Asean Free Trade Area.