By : DATUK SERI SYED HAMID ALBAR
Venue : [s.l]
Date : 13 FEBRUARY 2001
Title : OCCASION OF THE FAREWELL DINNER FOR H.E. BOUNTHONG VONGSALY AMBASSADOR OF THE LAO PDR

HIS EXCELLENCY
BOUNTHONG VONGSALY
AMBASSADOR OF THE LAO PDR

EXCELLENCIES

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

IT IS INDEED A PRIVILEGE TO HOST THIS FAREWELL DINNER TODAY IN HONOUR OF H.E. BOUNTHONG VONGSALY. HIS EXCELLENCY HAS SERVED IN MALAYSIA FOR MORE THAN 4 YEARS AND I UNDERSTAND THAT HE WILL SOON LEAVE MALAYSIA TO TAKE UP HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM. I TRUST HIS EXCELLENCY WILL CONTINUE TO FORGE TIES THAT WOULD BENEFIT THE REGION AS A WHOLE.

EXCELLENCIES

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

HIS EXCELLENCY'S GOOD WORKING RELATION WITH THE MINISTRY AND THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE HE HAS PLAYED IN ENHANCING THE RELATIONS BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND LAO ATTESTS TO THE DEVELOPMENT IN MALAYSIA - LAO TIES. I WISH TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON A JOB WELL DONE.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND LAO HAS GROWN OVER THE YEARS. I ATTRIBUTE THIS TO THE COMMITMENT OF BOTH COUNTRIES IN ENHANCING ITS BILATERAL RELATIONS. I HOPE MY VISIT TO LAO SOMETIME THIS YEAR, GOD WILLING, WOULD CONTINUE TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN OUR RELATIONS. I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT LAO LAST YEAR TO ATTEND THE ASEAN-EU MEETING AND WAS INDEED IMPRESSED WITH THE LAOTIAN GOVERNMENT FOR MANAGING THE MEETING WELL. THIS REFLECTS THE COMMITMENT OF LAO TOWARDS THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE TWO REGIONAL BODIES.

ON THAT NOTE, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH H.E. BOUNTHONG VONGSALY ALL THE VERY BEST IN HIS FUTURE UNDERTAKINGS. I WISH HIM AND HIS FAMILY WELL AND MAY THEY LEAVE MALAYSIA WITH FOND MEMORIES OF THE COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE.

THANK YOU.