

By : DATUK SERI SYED HAMID ALBAR
Venue : KUALA LUMPUR
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Title : CLOSING REMARKS AT THE THIRD MALAYSIA – INDIA JOINT COMMISSION MEETING

His Excellency Yashwant Sinha,
Minister for External Affairs of India,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

After two days of serious deliberations we have reached the conclusion of our Third Malaysia – India Joint Commission Meeting. It would not be presumptuous for me to say that the meeting has been highly successful as evidenced by the fact that both sides were able to constructively discuss and reach agreement on issues of mutual concern in an open and frank manner.

2. Malaysia regards its friendly and close relations with India as being of great importance and significance. Malaysia is pleased to see the renewed commitment from India to further strengthen bilateral cooperation. We were able to remove obstacles to improve our bilateral cooperation which will help both countries to prosper together. We were able to achieve the desired objective of this meeting as well as identify further areas for cooperation and collaboration. Indeed, we have agreed to collaborate in many areas such as trade and investment, petroleum and petrochemicals, power generation and transmission, transportation, culture, human resources development, science and technology, tourism, health, agriculture and consular matters.

3. The Joint Commission, apart from being an opportunity to review and enhance our bilateral relations, has also given our two sides the chance to work together to jointly promote our common interests.

Your Excellency,

4. I am convinced that we will be able to bring our bilateral relations to greater heights. While we have just concluded the Third Session of the Joint Commission Meeting, plenty needs to be done and I urge both sides to immediately carry out and implement the many areas of cooperation we have agreed upon during the meeting.

5. In conclusion, may I extend my appreciation to both sides for their contributions and tireless efforts in making the Third Session of the Malaysia – India Joint Commission a success. I also take this opportunity to once again extend my best wishes to His Excellency Yashwant Sinha, Minister for External Affairs of India and

members of his delegation and hope that they have a pleasant and fruitful stay in Malaysia.