

Penyampai : DATIN SERI DR. SITI HASMAH BINTI HAJI MOHD. ALI
Tajuk : THE "MALAYSIA ON DISPLAY PROMOTIONS" IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 15TH COMMONWEALTH GAMES
Lokasi : EATON SHOPPING CENTRE VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA.
Tarikh : 17-08-1994

It gives me great pleasure to extend our warm welcome or "Selamat Datang" as we say it, to each and every one of you to this special "MALAYSIA ON DISPLAY PROMOTIONS".

2. In conjunction with the 15th Commonwealth Games, this festival is designed to give you an insight into the various festivities which will be especially organised for you in Malaysia in 1998. Malaysia's multiracial society with its diverse cultures and religions will certainly interest and fascinate you.

3. Currently, various infrastructural facilities including transportation, telecommunication, accommodation, indoor and outdoor recreation and entertainment centres are being developed, upgraded and improved, especially our sports facilities to cater for the Commonwealth Games. By 1998, we hope to have more modern sports facilities such as the National Sports Complex, the new National Stadium, the lawn bowling arena, an olympic standard indoor swimming pool, shooting complex, basketball stadium and rugby stadium.

4. In anticipation of an influx of visitors to Malaysia in the coming years, a second airport is being built to the south of Kuala Lumpur. It is estimated that phase one will be completed by 1997 in time for the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur. Also the city Light Transit Rapid System is being built to cater for a better transportation system.

This will also facilitate spectators to shuttle to the respective venues.

5. As regards to tourism, the Culture, Arts and Tourism Ministry will accelerate efforts to promote tourism with special emphasis on sports. For this purpose packages are being developed between the Ministry and local as well as overseas tour operators to attract tourists in conjunction with the next Commonwealth Games.

6. I have no doubt that Malaysia's abundant tourism resorts, beautiful beaches, tropical islands, vast jungle with tropical rainforest, as well as beautiful hill resorts will fascinate visitors, especially athletes participating in the competitive events. I hope they will take advantage of the facilities in order to unwind and relax.

7. Getting around Malaysia is easy especially with our excellent domestic air services and major new highways which have been constructed to give visitors better access to discover the diversity of Malaysia's attractions. To complement these facilities, hotels and resorts too have been improved and important projects are currently underway to offer visitors, regardless of their budget, more selection and variety.

8. For visitors who would like to bring back souvenirs, there are excellent shopping facilities in the major cities in Malaysia, particularly in Kuala Lumpur. The relatively low cost of food and accommodation in Malaysia would not hurt the pockets of the visitors. Needless to say, Malaysia has all the ingredients to host the next Commonwealth Games.

9. I would like to take this opportunity to invite each and everyone of you to come and celebrate our diversity in unity, to come together, not only for the 16th Commonwealth Games but also to share our rich cultures, our scenic areas, and the warm hospitality of Malaysians. I look forward to welcoming you and your sports delegation to Kuala Lumpur before and in 1998.
