



BINA PURI HOLDINGS BHD

PRESS RELEASE

KLIA 2 to boost tourism revenue

New Straits Times, 2010/08/31

By Eileen Ng

eileen@nst.com.my



(From left) Transport Minister Datuk Seri Kong Cho Ha, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, MAHB managing director and chief executive officer Tan Sri Bashir Ahmad and MAHB chairman Tan Sri Dr Aris Othman at the KLIA 2 groundbreaking in Sepang yesterday. — NST picture by Izhari Ariffin

SEPANG: The new permanent low-cost carrier terminal (LCCT) here dubbed "KLIA 2" will serve as an economic stimulus to the country.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said not only would KLIA 2 provide more job opportunities to Malaysians, it would also boost tourism by attracting more airlines and visitors to the country.

"It goes without saying that given the rapid growth of low-cost air travel, the construction of a project such as this new terminal brings the country many benefits.

"This facility will greatly enhance our vision to increase tourism revenue from the current

RM53 billion last year to RM168 billion by 2020," he said in his speech at the ground-breaking ceremony at KLIA2's construction site yesterday.

Also present were Transport Minister Datuk Seri Kong Cho Ha, his deputies Jelaing Mersat and Datuk Abdul Rahim Bakri and Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (MAHB) managing director and chief executive officer Tan Sri Bashir Ahmad.

Targeted to be completed by April 2012, the new LCCT, which is located 2km from the main KL International Airport terminal, will cater to 30 million passengers a year, and with expansion, can handle 45 million passengers a year.

Najib said local businesses would benefit from the influx of tourists into the country.

"The spillover effect from having this captive market at our airports is immense from a commercial perspective. Following the footsteps of established successful airports such as London's Heathrow and Amsterdam's Schiphol, where airports are much more than just a place to catch flights, MAHB has envisioned our own airports as the platform to drive commercial business.

"With its vision to be a world-class airport business, I am encouraged to know that besides operating top-notch airport facilities and services, there will also be ample retail and commerce opportunities.

"These will allow Malaysian businesses to capitalise and benefit from the influx of tourists and spending power flowing continuously through the arrival and departure gates."

He is confident that the new terminal would attract more low-cost carriers to fly to Kuala Lumpur, further strengthening the government's efforts to make the country the top-of-mind destination for leisure and business travel.

He also assured that the government was committed to developing all 39 airports in Malaysia.

"We will collaborate with MAHB, seek its expert advice on the upgrading requirements of our domestic and international airports and together, we can truly build a thriving airport and aviation industry that will benefit our people and contribute substantially to our economic growth."

Najib paid tribute to homegrown AirAsia Bhd for its efforts in stimulating low-cost travel in the country.

He pointed out that over the last 10 years, low cost travel at KLIA had grown on an average of 37 per cent

For further enquiries, please contact :

Cik. Surati Sujor

Corp Communications Dept

BINA PURI HOLDINGS BHD

Tel : 03-6136 3333 (3005)

Fax : 03-6136 9999

E-mail : surati@binapuri.com.my