

OIC Delegates found Malaysia to be a good tourist and study destination

By Stephen Ng

Two diplomats from Azerbaijan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ulviyya Isganarova and Nurlana Gurbanova said that they were impressed with the way Malaysians celebrate their Independence Day with flags of all sizes.

"In our country, there is less fanfare about our National Day, but over here, flags are raised in shopping malls and in the homes of Malaysians," said an amused 22-year-old Nurlana, who speaks good English. "Even in the hotels, there are little flags placed on the food servings."

They were among 15 diplomats from 12 OIC countries, who were on a two-month study tour on Total Quality Management organized by the National Productivity Corporation.

Nurlana said she and Ulviyya will return to their country with positive impressions to share with their fellow countrymen.

"Malaysians are also very polite and friendly to foreigners. It makes me feel so at home here in Malaysia, especially on the Island of Penang, where Ulviyya and I enjoy the ambience," said Nurlana. "People just smile whenever they meet us. We were just walking past a lady yesterday morning and she was smiling."

Malaysia, she added, will be a great tourist destination for people from Azerbaijan, besides an attractive place for students to pursue their tertiary education.

"The cost of living is very reasonable, and the tuition fees are only a fraction of what our people have to pay when they study in Britain," she said, when met at University College Sedaya International (UCSI), a local institution of higher learning in Kuala Lumpur.

Besides visiting UCSI, the guests were also taken on a plant visit to Bosch in Penang, Honda factory in Perlis, Petronas Twin Towers and KLCC in the Federal capital.



From left - Ulviyya Isgandarova and Nurlana Gurvanova

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