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ASEAN Corner At National Library To Promote Group Diverse Cultural, Intellectual Heritage

KUALA LUMPUR, June 30 (Bernama) -- The setting up of an ASEAN Corner at the National Library here will serve as a platform to promote the diverse culture and intellectual heritage of member countries.

Tourism and Culture Ministry Secretary-general Tan Sri Dr Ong Hong Peng said the centre, which housed publications and reading materials from all ASEAN member countries, among others hoped to promote cultural knowledge.

"Culture plays an important role in the development of nations through its capacity to encourage the flourishing of investment and tourism, as well as, generating employment," he said when launching the ASEAN Exhibition 2015 at the National Library today.

The exhibition themed "Our People, Our Community, Our Vision" organised by National Library in conjunction with ASEAN Day will be held from June until December and aimed at instilling interest among the youth about the ASEAN community especially, the roles and responsibilities of preserving the ASEAN cultural heritage.

Ong said among the books displayed at the centre were best-selling literary work by renowned authors from ASEAN member countries.

He hoped with the centre, regional cooperation in sharing the 20 million library material at the various ASEAN member libraries can be carried out.

Currently the ASEAN Digital Library Project is being hosted by the Singapore National Library and partly funded by the ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information (ASEAN COCI) Cultural Fund.

The collection in the digital library can be disseminated to the ASEAN national libraries via metadata, he said.

Meanwhile, National Library Director General Nafisah Ahmad said currently more than 5,000 materials related to ASEAN, audiovisuals, encyclopedia and magazines are being exhibited at the ASEAN Corner.

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