



Musa performing the handprint ceremony.

Mardinah Jikur

SANDAKAN: Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman said tourist arrivals in Sabah are expected to continue growing with the sector expected to repeat last year's performance of receiving 2.75 million tourists.

Thus, it was imperative to have more facilities to cater for the positive growth in the tourism sector in the State and welcomed the initiative by the Municipal Council (SMC), ICSD Venture Sdn Bhd and Aseana Properties Limited to develop the Four Points By Sheraton Hotel and Harbour Mall in the heart of the city here.

Speaking at the grand opening of the Four Points by Sheraton and Harbour Mall, Sunday, Musa said the integrated development was significant in line with the dis-

CM expects repeat tourism showing for Sabah this year

trict's strategic location as the development hub for the East Coast.

Musa said it was also in line with the Sabah Development Corridor (SDC) programme as well as halatuju of the State's development.

In this context, he said the tourism sector was among the key economic catalysts for the state's development, apart from making it as the Meeting, Incentive, Conference and Exhibitions (MICE) centre in the East Coast.

At the same time, the development would definitely benefit the local people here. Musa noted that the private-public investment collaboration would be able to generate foreign investments and spur the state tourism industry.

Earlier, ICSD Venture Sdn Bhd President and Chief Executive Officer of Ireka Development Sdn Bhd, Lai Voon Hon expressed appreciation to Musa and those involved in the implementation of the project.

In the same function, SM Yu Yuan Sandakan and the MPS Islamic Welfare body each received RM10,000 contribution.