



SPEECH BY

**HIS EXCELLENCY TUN DATO' SERI UTAMA
AHMAD FUZI BIN HAJI ABDUL RAZAK
YANG DI-PERTUA NEGERI PULAU PINANG**

**EASTERN & ORIENTAL HOTEL STAFF'S APPRECIATION
HI-TEA CEREMONY
12TH AUGUST 2022 (FRIDAY) 4:30PM
AT GRAND BALLROOM, E&O HOTEL**

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Ms. Alison Fraser

General Manager of Eastern & Oriental Hotel

Senior Management and members of the Staff of the E&O Hotel

Mohd Abdul Rahman bin Ismail

Private Secretary to TYT

YBhg. Dato' Ashok Rudy Ratnanesan

Social Media Director TYT Office

Lt. Kol. Wan Muhammad Kamal bin Wan Yusoff

ADC to TYT

ASP Mohd Fauzi bin Ismail

Chief Security and Bodyguard Officer Seri Mutiara

And members of Staff of the office of the TYT based at the Hotel.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh and a very good evening.

1. I wish to thank all of you for your presence here this afternoon.
2. As you are all well aware, this Hotel has been the abode and office of the TYT and Toh Puan over the past 15 1/2 months since assuming my post as the Yang di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Pinang in May 2021.
3. This is a very long period indeed for any Hotel Guest. After so many postponements in my movement to Seri Mutiara, I was actually beginning to believe that we may never leave E&O. Just like the song Hotel California!

4. Mind you, it's not that I am not used to a long-stay in a Hotel before but the longest period in my experience was about 3 months or so.

5. I think I can very well qualify for the Malaysian Book of Records. Someone should perhaps speak to YBhg. Dato' Seri Michael Tio of MBR about this!

6. I must say that although not without challenges in some respects, our stay here has been generally most comfortable, enjoyable and memorable, if not historical.

7. The time has now come for me, Toh Puan, my family plus my staff to bid farewell.

8. We will be leaving this coming Sunday, Insha Allah.

9. Today's Appreciation Hi-Tea Ceremony is our small way of saying thank you to all the wonderful people - the management and staff of the E&O Hotel from myself, Toh Puan, my family and members of my staff based at the Hotel.

10. We are particularly grateful to all of you for the dedication, commitment and invaluable services rendered to us during our stay here, including during the Movement Control Order period last year.

11. You have all shown exceptional hospitality traits in making myself, Toh Puan, and the rest of my family and staff feel most welcome staying at the Hotel.

12. I would like to take this opportunity to convey our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to;

a) Firstly, YBhg. Dato' Tee Eng Ho, the owner of the Hotel, Datin Teoh and his management team for their hospitality and generosity whenever we had a chance to meet at the Hotel during their visit to Penang,

b) Secondly, Ms Alison Fraser, the General Manager and senior management of the Hotel including Mr Jimmy Lee, for their able leadership in ensuring that our special needs and requirements are always given special attention by the staff of the Hotel,

c) Thirdly, the key Guest Relations team assigned to provide special services and attention to our needs - Wan Mohd Fuaad Sani bin Wan Abdullah, Cheah Choon Loong, Shah Mohd Reza bin Yusoff, Sheikh Abdul Rahman bin Zainal Abidin, Sekar a/l Maruthan and others assigned to take care of us from time to time. They have been most loyal, dedicated and ever most helpful in meeting our requirements even beyond their normal call of duties and for which we are most grateful. Their personal sacrifices will not be forgotten.

d) Fourthly, the Chefs of the Hotel, in particular Lim Fang Leong, Partiben a/l Muniandy, Kalimuthu a/l Muthurian, Seow Teik Poh and Abdullah bin Halib as well as the F&B team for their ability to conjure up different cuisines, at times not on the menu, so as to enable us to enjoy a diversified and appetising dishes. I must say we have literally tasted all the menu available at the Hotel !

e) Fifthly, the dedicated and well trained team of housekeepers for ensuring that our rooms including balcony are kept always clean with everything, spic and span, day in, day out. We are grateful also to the gardeners, electricians, handyman and those involved in providing our daily laundry and dry cleaning services.

f) Sixthly, the Sales and Events team for seamlessly assisting and arranging the numerous events and meetings held at the Hotel by my Office.

g) And last but not least, the numerous other staff members of the Hotel who have provided one kind of service or the other to us, knowingly or unknowingly, many of whom we have not even been personally introduced or meet face-to-face.

13. I shall always remember all of you for your kind support and as my extended team who played a great part in enabling me to settle down and assimilate myself in Penang with the E&O Hotel becoming the first office of the 8th Governor of Penang !

14. As you are all aware, a lot of official meetings and events were held here involving visits by prominent individuals and personalities of all walks of life on account of our stay at the Hotel and I hope this notable feature will be well documented and remembered as part of the rich history of E&O.

15. And so it is that we leave and bid goodbye to all of you with gratitude for the wonderful memories with the full conviction that we may meet again at the Hotel, albeit under different circumstances.

16. Hope you will enjoy the Hi-Tea and the rest of the evening.

Thank you and Wabillahitaufik Walhidayah,

Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.