

FACT SHEET - MALAYSIA

April 1990

Area: 329,744 sq. km.

Population: 17.6 million (1990)

Capital: Kuala Lumpur

System of Government: Constitutional Monarchy

Head of State: Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Sultan Iskandar

Prime Minister: Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad

Minister of Trade/Industry: Datin Paduka Rafidah Aziz

Language: Bhasa Malaysia, English,  
Chinese, Tamil

Ethnic Background: Malay 50%, Chinese 33%,  
East Indian 10%, indigenous tribes 7%

GDP: (1988) US \$33.6 B Per Capita Income: US \$2,028 Currency: Mlsian Ringgit = Cdn \$0.43

Inflation Rate: 4.5% (1989) Unemployment Rate: 7.9% (1989) Debt Service Ratio: 12.0% (1989)

**Major Trading Partners (1988):**

Exports (Total: US \$20.8 billion)

Imports (Total: US \$16.6 billion)

- 1. Singapore \$4.0 b
- 2. USA \$3.6 b
- 3. Japan \$3.5 b
- 4. S. Korea \$1.0 b
- 5. U.K. \$0.7 b

- 1. Japan \$3.9 b
- 2. USA \$2.9 b
- 3. Singapore \$2.2 b
- 4. U.K. \$0.8 b
- 5. Taiwan \$0.7 b

**Canadian Trade Statistics: (Cdn \$ millions)**

	1986	1987	1988	1989
Exports	103.6	118.4	192.0	218.7
Imports	208.4	257.5	323.9	320.1
Balance	- 104.8	- 139.1	- 131.9	-101.4

**Major Cdn Exports (Cdn \$'000)**

1989

**Major Cdn Imports (Cdn \$'000)**

1989

Fertilizers & fertil. material	(36,933)	Integrated Circuits	(45,669)
Wheat	(26,535)	Clothing	(37,505)
Newsprint and Paper	(23,696)	Rubber	(29,278)
Asbestos	(18,256)	Radios	(28,106)
Aircraft	(17,211)	Transformers	(12,917)

**Main Sectors of Opportunity for Canadian Business:**

- 1. Advanced Technology Products/Services
- 2. Oil and gas equipment and services
- 3. Agriculture and Food Products and Services
- 4. Defence Programs, Products/Services
- 5. Power and Energy Equipment/Services

EDC Status: on cover

CIDA Status: Category II

Resident Canadian Banks: Bank of Nova Scotia

Canadian Reps in Malaysia: High Commissioner - Garrett Lambert; Commercial Counsellor - Melvin MacDonald; Tel: (011-60-3) 261-2000; Telex: (Destination code 84) 30269; Fax: (011-60-3) 261-3428

Department of External Affairs/PST Trade Contact: Laurena Gies (613) 995-7659; Telex: 053-3745; Fax: (613) 996-4309

Malaysia Reps in Canada: High Commissioner - Tan Sri Datuk Thomas Jayasurya; Commercial Reps - Toronto