

Prime Minister launches Petronas Carigali's

Dulang: Proof we can

first crude
do it

KERTIH, Mon. — The successful development of Dulang, the newest and one of the largest oilfields in offshore Terengganu, by Petronas Carigali Sdn Bhd is another testimony that given the chance, Malaysians can meet the challenges of a sophisticated and high-risk business by using their skills and ingenuity.

Launching the company's maiden production project here tonight, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, noting that the local people had been involved in the undertaking from the very beginning, said it was an achievement in which Malaysians could take pride.

"In this context, Petronas Carigali as the operator of the oilfield has fulfilled its role of paving the way for Malaysians to participate in the oil industry," said Dr Mahathir.

He said the production facilities at Dulang were among the most up-to-date

on a tour of the offshore platform.

The Dulang oilfield, with recoverable reserves of about 181 million barrels will account for one-tenth of the country's oil production. It may help improve the unfavourable trade with Japan which has agreed to buy the oil.

Dr Mahathir said the involvement of local companies in the project had placed local manufacturers and petroleum services and supporting industries on par with others in the region.

"The Dulang project signifies the maturity of the local petroleum industry, which has pushed Petronas Carigali to the forefront as an exploration and production company," said the Prime Minister.

He hoped that with this success local companies would prepare themselves to grab available opportunities by bidding for overseas projects.

in the region and possibly the whole of Asia.

"As an example, the eight-leg jacket for the Dulang B platform, is one of the biggest offshore structures in South-East Asia.

"Its construction is an achievement which is a boost for the country's petroleum industry since the equipment and the state-of-the-art facilities were built by local shipyards and fabricators.

"The Dulang project has exposed these firms to new dimensions and given them the opportunity to upgrade their capability and capacity by allowing them to gain invaluable experience and expertise," he said.

Before attending the launching ceremony at Ranau Petronas here, the Prime Minister was taken

He congratulated Petronas Carigali for establishing Petronas Carigali Overseas Sdn Bhd which is currently carrying out exploration in Myanmar. It plans to expand its operation to Vietnam.

He said if these projects bear fruit, the efforts would help develop neighbouring countries and indirectly bring benefits to Malaysia.

The Prime Minister said although the petroleum industry had achieved tremendous progress in a short period, Malaysians cannot be complacent in view of intense competition in the trading of oil and gas.

He urged local petroleum firms to upgrade their capability and capacity in line with the Government's objective of achieving developed nation status by 2020.