

PM: Malaysia not in market for aircraft

INSI 13 NOV 1991

PULAU LANGKAWI, Tues. — Malaysia is not in the market for military aircraft at the exhibition, Prime Minister ~~Datuk Seri~~ Dr Mahathir Mohamad said here today.

He said Malaysia is not upgrading its facilities other than those already committed.

Any upgrading can be considered later, he told newsmen when he took a break in between visits to exhibition booths and receiving visiting dignitaries.

Asked to comment on Lima which entered its second day today, Dr Mahathir said there was much interest in both the air show that was staged and the aircrafts on display.

Keen interest was also seen among visitors to the exhibition.

Dr Mahathir said he was not expecting any immediate deals being made at the

exhibition but added that he was aware of the serious business negotiations being held between and among interested parties.

The Prime Minister said Lima '91 was intended to be a show of small aircraft but a lot of companies wanted to participate to show potential buyers what they have to offer.

Asked whether he would have liked to have more non-military aircraft, goods and services on display, Dr Mahathir said he would have preferred to have more civilian-related items on display.

Asked to comment on the Malaysian satellite, Dr Mahathir said the Government thought that it was better for the private sector to undertake the project.

This would enable promoters to utilise a more business approach to the venture, he added.