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MAHATHIR REGRETS ACTION OF UNSCRUPULOUS LANGKAWI TRADERS
Mahathir-traders

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LANGKAWI, Nov 15 (Bernama)--Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today criticised traders who hiked prices indiscriminately at a time when people are flocking to the resort island.

He said that, the action of the traders would not benefit the country in the long run as it, portrayed an ugly picture of Malaysians.

+At times, even goods purchased by Malaysians are fixed at unreasonable prices, he told a press conference at the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace (LIMA '91) Exhibition here.

He advised the traders to cease such unscrupulous practice as it would discourage people from visiting the island.

Asked about the government's plan to promote the growth of selected aviation industries in Langkawi, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said that the government would only approve the establishment of legitimate industries on the island. -- more

♥15/11/19-13MST

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+The government does not want too many industries to be set up and, as such, only legitimate and selected industries will be approved, he said.

He added that industries utilising light materials transportable by plane would be suitable.

The government has provided a 120-hectare site near the international airport as an industrial zone.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said that Langkawi was suitable for the growth of such industries because its status as a duty-free port, would facilitate the entry and export of goods.

He also said that agreement, had been reached between a local company and a foreign firm to set up a pilot training centre here. -- more

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He said that following the agreement between Syarikat Mofaz and Cessna Pilot Training Centre, the pilot training centre would be set up next year.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said that it was a good joint venture because Cessna was not only an aircraft manufacturing company but also had the expertise in flight training.

+I believe that with the setting up of the pilot training centre more Malaysians and foreigners could learn to fly in Malaysia, he added.

He also said that the setting up of the pilot training centre was a timely move as the Malaysian Aviation Academy in Melaka was unable to cope with the huge demand for flight training.

He added: +At present, we are still sending large groups of trainees overseas to become pilots and the cost was higher.

+I am confident that if conducted here, the cost will be lower and it can become a profitable industry because it will also attract trainees from other countries. +-- Bernama

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