

R GE 16-01 00165 EA715

aae

BIGGER LANGKAWI AIRPORT ON THE WAY
Airport

16 JAN1992

XUAH (Langkawi) Jan 16 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has approved a proposal to expand the Langkawi International Airport to cater for bigger aircraft.

Langkawi Development Authority (LADA) assistant general manager, Encik Yazid Jais, said the decision was made last week at a meeting of LADA officials.

He added that details of the project were still being worked out and no decision had been made regarding the cost of the project.

+When completed, the upgraded airport will be able to cater for wide-bodied aircraft such as the DC-10, told local and foreign journalists attending the Pre-Asean Tourism Forum XI '92 (ATF) at the Pelangi Beach Resort here today.

About 200 journalists and buyers are meeting here prior to attending the ATE to be opened by Arts, Culture and Tourism Minister, Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik, in Pulau Pinang on Saturday. -- more

♥16/01/18-46MST

R GE 16-01 00150 EA716

aae

Airport 2 (last) Kuah (Langkawi)

Encik Yazid said the project would involve expansion of the runway and other facilities such as the cargo and passenger terminals. At present, the airport can only accomodate the Boeing 737.

+The process of requisitioning the required land is underway and the project is expected to be ready in two or three years' time,+ he added.

The airport extended inland instead of towards the sea as planned earlier.

Prior to this, LADA had planned to reclaim the area near the airport but decided against it for environmental reasons as it would cause erosion and silting in resort areas nearby.

This would be the second facelift for the airport which was upgraded at a cost of \$22 million last year in conjunction with the Langkawi International Maritime and Air (LIMA) Exhibition. -- Bernama

16/01/18 46MST