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Mahathir - LIMA  
MAHATHIR VISITS LIMA 93 SITE

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LANGKAWI, April 25<sup>93</sup> (Bernama) -- The Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition - LIMA 93 here in December is expected to be more successful than LIMA 91 in view of the increased number of participants, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He said so far 290 companies representing 89 groups in the aerospace and 10 in maritime industries, including one from South Africa, had confirmed their participation.

The total space booked by the participants had also increased from 3,100 square metres in the previous LIMA to 5,900 sqmetres, he told reporters after inspecting the site here.

Dr Mahathir visited the exhibition centre, the aircraft parking bay expansion project at the Langkawi International Airport at Padang Matsirat and hotel projects at Teluk Burau and Gunung Raya.

He said he was satisfied with the progress of the various projects in preparation for LIMA 93, adding that the increase in the number of hotel rooms would overcome the problem of room shortage experienced in the LIMA 91.

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Mahathir - LIMA 2 Langkawi

According to him, there are now 4,798 hotel rooms in Langkawi, of which 1,915 rooms are reserved for LIMA 93.

He said although the number was still short by 330 rooms for the use of LIMA 93, the problem could be overcome.

On the increase in the price of sand in Langkawi, he said so far it did not affect development on the island.

"The price is a bit higher but is still at the same level with the price in Kuala Lumpur," he said.

The price of sand here rose following the government action in withdrawing the licences of several operators at Kedawang near the airport to protect land structure in the airport area.--more

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The Prime Minister was accompanied by Kedah Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Osman Aroff and LADA General Manager Haji Abdul Halil Abdul Mutalib.

Dr Mahathir, who arrived here yesterday afternoon with his wife, Datuk Seri Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah, left for home this evening.--Bernama

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