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Mahathir-LIMA

ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF PETROL, ELECTRICITY AND WATER IN LANGKAWI

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LANGKAWI, Nov.8 (Bernama) -- Action is being taken to ensure that there is adequate supply of petroleum, electricity and water to meet the needs of the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace (LIMA '93) exhibition here from Dec.7 to Dec.12, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

New storage tanks being built by Petronas on the island and Pulau Rebak were expected to be ready before LIMA, he added.

Speaking to reporters after visiting the LIMA '93 site here, he said the problem of inadequate electricity supply would also be resolved before LIMA began.

In the case of water, he said: "There is enough supply."

Dr Mahathir said the government was also looking into the possibility of developing the Gunung Machinchang area in the northwest of the island and experts were now conducting a study on it.

He was briefed on the matter by the Public Works Deputy Director-General Datuk Omar Ibrahim at The Datai hotel in Teluk Datai this morning. -- more

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Mahathir-LIMA 2 Langkawi

Dr Mahathir said several hotel projects to meet the demand for rooms during LIMA; would be completed in time.

Among them were the Berjaya Langkawi Beach Resort in Teluk Burau which would have 400 rooms and 250-room Mahsuri Westin Hotel, near Kuala Teriang.

He said the government would allow them to employ foreign workers to overcome the shortage of local manpower.

The Berjaya Langkawi Beach Resort has brought in more than 140 of the 300 Albanian workers it plans to employ.

"They only come to work and will return to their country when they complete their job," Dr Mahathir said.

He expressed satisfaction with the preparations for LIMA '93.

The number of rooms in Langkawi had increased and he believed visitors to LIMA would have no problem finding accommodation.

Commenting on the request by government officers here to be paid special allowances because of the heavier workload with the rapid development of Langkawi, he said he had yet to receive any memorandum from them. -- more

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"We will study it. The problem is that everyone says where they work is the most difficult area and in other places things are easier," he said.

Dr Mahathir arrived here yesterday with his wife Datuk Seri Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah and two of their children, Maizurah and Mazhar, for a rest.

While here, he visited LIMA site and exhibition centre at the airport, the two hotel projects and Kuah Jetty.

Today, he took a ride in a helicopter to get an aerial view of developments on Langkawi.

The Prime Minister and his family returned to Kuala Lumpur this afternoon. -- Bernama

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