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LIMA-PM

MAHATHIR TOURS LIMA INDOOR EXHIBITION AREA

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec. 9⁹³ (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today toured exhibits displayed by various companies taking part in the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA '93) here.

Among the pavilions at the Mahsuri International Exhibition Centre, main venue of the LIMA show, visited by Dr Mahathir were those of Malaysian, French, Italian and Russian defence and aerospace companies.

The six-day LIMA '93, the second in its series, was officially opened on Dec 7. A total of 375 companies from 23 countries were taking part in the exhibition, according to organisers Le Proton LIMA Sdn.Bhd.

At the Malaysian pavillion, where he witnessed the signing of an agreement to set up Dornier Seastar Malaysia Sdn.Bhd. which will be manufacturing the German-designed amphibious Dornier Seastar aircraft, Dr Mahathir toured several booths. -- more

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Among them were those of the Naval Dockyard Sdn.Bhd. which will be embarking on a major naval shipbuilding venture, SME Aerospace and SME Aviation, maker of the first all-metal MD-3 trainer aircraft, communications company Sapura and Shahpadu Aviation Sdn.Bhd.

At the Italian section, he visited the stand of helicopter-maker Agusta and aerospace giant Alenia which is currently involved in upgrading several air traffic control systems in Malaysian airports and promoting the G-222 military transport to the Royal Malaysian Air Force.

He also visited the French exhibit where he was briefed on the equipment on display by officials from electronics giant Thomson-CSF and aircraft maker Dassault.

The Prime Minister also visited the Russian pavillion where he spent about 45 minutes listening to briefings by officials and experts from various Russian companies taking part in LIMA '93.

Among the stands he stopped by was the Moscow Aircraft Production Organisation (MAPO) and helicopter-maker Kamov. -- more

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The Russians were among the major participants at the show, bringing with them the MiG-29 and Su-27 aerial display teams. Malaysia has decided to acquire 18 Russian MiG-29 fighters for the Royal Malaysian Air Force.

In between the tour, Dr Mahathir also received a courtesy call by Russian Foreign and Economic Relations Minister O.D. Davydov and Deputy Defence Minister Col-Gen Pytor Deynekin.

He was present to witness the signing of an agreement for the purchase of eight F/A-18 Hornet aircraft for the Royal Malaysian Air Force.

He also witnessed the signing of the concession agreement for the privatisation of the National Sewerage System between the government and Indah Water Konsortium Sdn.Bhd.

He rounded up his tour with a visit to the Danish warship Vaedderen. He flew in a Dornier SeaStar which took off from the airport and landed on the sea near the ship. -- Bernama

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