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Mahathir - runway

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LANGKAWAI, Jan 16 (Bernama) -- The Government proposes to extend the runway of the Langkawi Airport to enable bigger planes like B747 to land.

At present the airport could take in B737 and other smaller aircraft.

Speaking to reporters here before leaving for Kuala Lumpur, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the runway extension project would involve reclaiming land from the sea.

On cracks on roads in the Gunung Raya area caused by the recent heavy rains, he said the government would check this problem before it got worse.

The government proposed to upgrade the road leading to its summit in efforts to overcome the problem, he said.

"We feel that the person who built the road to Genting Highlands has the experience in this matter hence I have invited Goh Tong (Tan Sri Lim Goh Tong, Chairman of Genting Berhad) to look at the problem and submit proposals to check the erosion," he said. -- more

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▼16/01/21-59MST *

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Mahathir - runway 2 (last) Langkawi

Goh Tong would discuss the matter with the Public Works Department, he said.

Dr Mahathir, who was here for a one-day private visit, said the government was considering several proposals to build a landmark in the form of a monument or a tower resembling the eagle at Kuah Jetty to symbolise Langkawi.

The eagle was chosen because the name Langkawi originates from "Lang" which is the brown eagle and "Kawi" which is the brown manganese stone.

The Prime Minister also inspected the construction of the Marina Resort at Pulau Rebak Besar and expressed satisfaction with the progress of work.

He also toured the business complex under construction on reclaimed land at Kuah and the Masjid Al-Hana which is being decorated with special engravings. He later witnessed a badminton demonstration match put up by Thomas and Uber Cup players now training at the Langkawi Sports Complex.

The Prime Minister's wife Datuk Seri Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah had a separate programme. -- Bernama

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