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DCA GIVES GREEN LIGHT FOR CLUB TO CONDUCT FLIGHT TRAINING

LANGKAWI, Jan 21 (Bernama) -- The Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) has given permission to the Langkawi Air Recreational Club to conduct aerial training of its microlight aircraft within the vicinity of the Langkawi International Airport.

The go-ahead was given during a discussion between DCA Director General Zaini Omar and the club's representatives here, today.

However, according to Zaini, the club needed to ensure all safety aspects and to register its trainee pilots with the DCA.

It is learned that the club had earlier been refused permission to conduct training due to the congestion at the airport.

Speaking to reporters afterwards, Zaini said the consent was given as part of the government's efforts to encourage and promote the aviation industry in the duty-free resort island.

It was also in line with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's call to promote Langkawi as the region's premier destination for the aviation industry, he said.

Zaini said the DCA was encouraging more clubs using light aircraft to be set up in the country to develop interest among the people. At present, there are five such clubs in the country.

The club, formed last year, has a fleet of three microlight aircraft acquired from the United States, and a membership of 50. -- Bernama