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Mahathir-Flying

STICK TO PROCEDURES IN FLYING FOR SAFETY

MELAKA, May 3 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today advised flying enthusiasts that there is no short cuts in acquiring flying skill.

The Prime Minister said flying was a healthy hobby but it could be dangerous for those who did not give priority to procedures.

"The dangers in flying can be reduced if we are careful and stick to strict procedures and proper planning all the time," he said at the launching of the Flying Club of the Malaysia 4B Youth Movement at the Batu Berendam Airport, here.

"The dangers in flying small or large aircraft is the same for experienced or new fliers ... there are correct procedures and regulations to be followed for all," the Prime Minister added.

The government encouraged flying but there must be proper planning and those intending to take up flying must be fully prepared and given the right training, he said.

President of the 4B Youth Movement, Datuk Mohd Ali Rustam earlier said the club planned to venture into the designing and manufacturing of microlight aircraft in future.

He said for this purpose the club would set up a joint venture with Quicksilver International, one of the world's biggest microlight manufacturer.

The market potential for the aircraft was good especially in the Asian region and the club planned to produce the aircraft for this market besides meeting local demand.

The Prime Minister contributed two microlight aircraft to the club which had five aircraft previously.

Dr Mahathir later sprinkled "air mawar" on one of the microlight aircraft and watched an aerial exhibition by three trainees of the club. --

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