

01 AUG 1997

Fly-In

LANGKAWI FLY IN 1997 TO ATTRACT YOUTHS

LANGKAWI, Aug 1 (Bernama) -- Langkawi once again becomes a centre of attention by staging another event, the "Langkawi Fly In 1997" which will be held for five days from Aug 4.

The event is organised jointly by Le Proton LIMA Sdn Bhd, the organiser of the Langkawi Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition since 1991, International Motor Show and Airportex.

Le Proton senior manager Megat Nawawi Megat Hamid said today, the Fly in '97, expected to be opened by Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad, was more of a promotion for the light and micro-light aircraft industry in the country.

He said more than 60 aircraft would be on display by 12 private companies, the Royal Malaysian Airforce (TUDM), Civil Aviation Department (DCA), flying schools and foreign and local flying clubs.

Among the aircraft to be exhibited are the Cessna, Merlin GT, Zodiac, Piper Seneca 1 and the made-in-Malaysia Eagle X-TS with its components manufactured in Melaka and assembled in Australia.

To make the event more exciting, parachuting enthusiasts would have the opportunity to see 36 parachutists from six teams including two from the TUDM, one from the Federal Territory and one from the Royal Malaysian Police (PDRM) taking part in the competition and show-jumping.

He said Dr Mahathir would also flag-off 30 air cadets from the Langkawi Flying Club (KRUL) on their joy ride under the "young eagles joy ride" programme in conjunction with the Fly In 1997.

Between 15 and 20 aircraft would be used in the programme daily for five days.

He said 200 students from the resort island would be given the opportunity to take part in the programme, to see Langkawi from the air.

"We have arranged the programme to attract the youths in the flying industry in efforts to produce more pilots for our country," he said.

Megat Nawawi said about 2,700 students from 100 schools in Kedah would come to the island on a study tour to see and learn about the flying industry during the Fly In.

Meanwhile, KRUL deputy president Mansor Haji Ismail said he welcomed the opportunity given to the Langkawi Air Cadets to start off the flying exhibition.

He said the cadets were the first KRUL pioneer group comprising farmers' and fishermen's children on the island.

He said KRUL would exhibit its five aircraft, two MXL sport, a GT 500, an MX sport II and a Merlin GT.

KRUL would cooperate with the organiser, Le Proton to make the Fly In 1997 more attractive and interesting, he added. --BERNAMA

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