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Mahsuri Centre rehearses for the big day in full dress

LANGKAWI, Sun. - A full dress rehearsal was held at the Mahsuri International Exhibition Centre yesterday where the aerospace component of this year's Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace exhibition will be held.

The rehearsal was attended by a delegation from the Defence Ministry, led by its Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar.

Syed Hamid earlier toured the exhibition centre, where exhibitors and their contractors were busy putting final touches for Tuesday's launch.

Most of the booths had been constructed but exhibit materials themselves were not in place.

Le Proton Lima Sdn Bhd, the promoter of the aerospace segment of Lima '97, expects last-minute preparations to continue, right up to tomorrow evening.

The centre, which boasts about 21,000 square metres of exhibition space, will house about 620 companies from 40 countries.

Malaysian companies make up a quarter of the exhibitors, a reflection of the growing number of local firms now involved in the aerospace industry.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will open the six-day show at the centre, complete with cultural presentation and a hi-tech laser and video presentation.

This year, the maritime segment will be held at Tanjung Malai, under the auspices of Huswah Exhibition Sdn Bhd.

About 283 companies are participating in the maritime show.

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