

04 AUG 1997

Mahathir-Flying

MALAYSIANS SHOULD DEVELOP INTEREST IN FLYING.

LANGKAWI, Aug 4 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Malaysians should develop a love for aircraft and flying.

"Flying requires great care and love for flying and aircraft and that is why some people travel all over the world to look for old aircraft which they restore it in a tip top condition," he said.

He was speaking at a dinner held in conjunction with the opening of the 1997 Langkawi Oshkosh East Fly-In convention and exhibition.

Dr Mahathir said there was a tendency among some people to condemn old aircraft as soon as there was a little bit trouble.

"However, this kind of culture is not yet found in Malaysia," he said.

The Prime Minister said great love for old aircraft would only be found among people who were interested in flying.

"They would be happy to restore the condition of the old aircraft that could fly almost as good as new," he said.

The Prime Minister also hoped that the Langkawi Fly-In would attract more aircraft in future.

"I don't expect thousands of aircraft but a little bit more from than the 60 in today's exhibition, maybe a few hundred could be encouraging for all," he said.

Dr Mahathir was happy with the results of the Fly-In and the participation of the pilots from other countries. -- BERNAMA

NH SK