

27/07/1997

Tajudin: High turnout a sign of recognition

THE high number of participants in this year's Langkawi International Dialogue on Smart Partnership is a clear indication that the dialogue has gained recognition among heads of governments and captains of industries as an important event, LID joint chairman Tan Sri Tajudin Ramli said yesterday.

"The dialogue is definitely heading in the right direction. There are more participants and also more concrete programmes lined up this year compared to the previous two LIDs," he told reporters upon arriving for the LID '97 joint executive committee meeting at the Berjaya Beach and Spa Resort in Burau Bay.

On the previous LIDs, Tajudin, who is Malaysia Airlines chairman, said the events had laid the foundation for smart partnerships.

"The previous LIDs laid the foundation for smart partnerships and now the participants can look forward to discussing and working out a way how the concept can be put into practice," he said.

Tajudin also said feedback indicated that the previous LIDs had resulted in less bureaucratic red tape among those who had established smart partnerships.

The LID '97 will bring together 250 government leaders, including 16 heads of government, ministers from Commonwealth countries, top corporate figures worldwide and Malaysian trade union leaders.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will deliver a keynote address at the opening at 8.30pm tomorrow.

Dr Mahathir is the patron and adviser of the dialogue.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will attend the dialogue on the second day.

The LID is jointly organised by the Malaysian Industry-Government for High Technology and Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management.

Meanwhile, more participants of LID '97, which will be held at the Berjaya Beach Resort from tomorrow to Wednesday, arrived yesterday.

They included Jordanian Prime Minister and Defence Minister Dr Abdul Salam Al Majali (leading his nine-member delegation) and Swaziland Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso B. Dlamini.

(END)