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Ling-Ports

DR MAHATHIR TO CHAIR DIALOGUE ON THE USE OF LOCAL PORTS

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 7 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will chair a dialogue on the use of local ports, particularly Port Klang, to make them successful load centres.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said today the dialogue would involve representatives of freight forwarders, hauliers, importers, exporters and other players in the transport industry.

The date of the dialogue would be announced later, he told reporters after the weekly Cabinet meeting, here.

Dr Ling said efforts to make local ports load centres should not be the sole responsibility of the ministry and officials of the respective ports were also expected to help the government in marketing their ports.

He said that if Port Klang could be turned into a load centre, all main line vessels would call there.

He said that in the first six months this year transshipments at Port Klang had increased while imports had decreased.

"It is very encouraging, which means that Malaysians are using Port Klang as a transshipment centre. Even the regional cargo is coming here from Chittagong, Madras and Belawan," he added.

-- BERNAMA

NY JK