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MAHATHIR LAUNCHES "JALUR GEMILANG" YACHT FOR ROUND-THE-WORLD TRIP

LANGKAWI, Dec 5 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today launched the "Jalur Gemilang" yacht which local sailor Azhar Mansor will use to circumnavigate the world next month.

Perlis-born Azhar, 40, will try to break the world record of 105 days for non-stop solo sailing held by Frenchman Christophe Auguin.

Azhar is also determined to be the first person to sail non-stop solo on a new route verified by the United Kingdom-based World Sailing Speed Record Council (WSSRC).

The epic voyage, the first by a Malaysian, will take Azhar from Langkawi to the Indian, Pacific and Atlantic oceans then back to Langkawi passing through five southern-most capes.

His route would also involve making a long loop northwards of Brazil to complete the 21,600 nautical miles required by the WSSRC as a circumnavigation.

-- BERNAMA

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