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LIMA-Submarine

LOCAL COMPANY PLANS TO BUILD SUBMARINES

LANGKAWI, Dec 2 (Bernama) -- A local Bumiputera company plans to build the Swats (Shallow Water Attack Submarine) submarine for use by the Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN) in future.

PSC-Naval Dockyard Sdn Bhd general manager Syed Amir Syed Alwi Shahabudin said the small-sized submarine measuring 30 metres in length and weighing 126 tons could be used in shallow waters.

"We shall submit an official proposal to build the submarine to the Malaysian government soon," he said after Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad witnessed the maritime segment of the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace '99 (LIMA '99) Exhibition, here today.

The submarine can accommodate a crew of between seven and 10 men, he said.

Syed Amir said if the proposal is accepted, the submarine would be built at the PSC-Naval Dockyard in Lumut, Perak.

He said the technology and design used in building the submarine would be obtained from Germany and Italy.

In this context, he said the company had sent more than 100 staff for training in Germany in stages to acquire the necessary expertise and technology.

Syed Amir said Germany was chosen as the venue for training because the country had high technology in the construction of submarines.

-- BERNAMA

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