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Defence

MINISTRY TO LAUNCH DEFENCE INDUSTRY COUNCIL THIS MONTH

KUALA LUMPUR, July 6 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Defence Industry Council will be launched this month to introduce pro-active policies to further develop the national defence industry sector.

It would serve as a forum for the government and local defence-related companies to identify problems impeding the industry, Defence Minister Datuk Abang Abu Bakar Mustapha said today.

He said: "Once we know their problems, it makes it easier for the government to introduce new policies to help these companies."

He told reporters this after inspecting the air force's Central Aerospace Engineering Services Establishment or CAESE at the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) Base in Subang near here.

Abang Abu Bakar will be council chairman.

Its other members will be senior officers of the ministry, the armed forces and chief executive officers of key companies in the local defence industry.

On his visit to CAESE today, Abang Abu Bakar said the establishment had satisfactorily carried out its task of producing sophisticated equipment for the air force.

CAESE was presently involved in designing a simulator for the PC-7 trainer aircraft as well as in electronic warfare and unmanned airborne vehicle projects.

"We are thankful to seven local companies namely Telekom Malaysia Bhd, Ikramatic System Sdn Bhd, System Consultancy Services Sdn Bhd, Tiara Communication Consultancy Sdn Bhd, Sapura Advance System Sdn Bhd, Pointgate Sdn Bhd and Modus Sdn Bhd for assisting CAESE in coming out with these products through smart partnership," he said.

He added that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is scheduled to visit CAESE in September and monitor its progress since its inception in 1993.

-- BERNANA

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