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Yacht

TWO-YEAR VISIT PASS FOR FOREIGN YACHTSMEN WHO STOP AT PULAU REBAK

LANGKAWI, July 2 (Bernama) -- Foreign yachtsmen who make stops at Pulau Rebak here will automatically receive a two-year visit pass, Immigration authorities said.

The move, effective from last month, is to make Langkawi a destination of foreign yachts and boost tourism on the resort island.

This privilege as accorded during Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's visit to Pulau Rebak last month to view the island's potential as a yacht anchorage haven.

However, the visit pass would only be given if the visits by the yachtsmen were not on business and political matters.

Previously the visit pass given to them was only for one year.

Meanwhile, a Langkawi Development Authority (Lada) spokesman said the Pulau Rebak marina management should provide "slipway" and "hard stand" facilities for yachts needing maintenance work.

So far such services were only available in Phuket, Thailand, he said.

Pulau Rebak has some 50 bays for yachts to anchor. As of last month 644 yachts have stopped at the island, dubbed the "Caribbean of the East".

The two other yacht anchorage in Langkawi is Langkawi Yacht Club, Kuah and Awana Porto Malai Resort, Tanjung Malai here.

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