

# Take to the skies, Ramli tells the youngsters

Nst 2 1 AUG 2001

MALACCA, Mon. - Youths are encouraged to take up flying to help the country have more citizens with knowledge in aeronautics and related fields.

Deputy Transport Minister Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib said that by taking up flying, youths would also be doing something useful.

"Youths should take up the challenge as the country needs more pilots and more people involved in aeronautics," he said when closing the Malacca International Air Carnival yesterday.

Present were Chief Minister Datuk Wira Mohd Ali Rustam and Sungai Udang Assemblyman Karim Sulaiman.

The carnival was jointly organised by the Department of Civil Aviation, Malaysia Airports Bhd and the Malaysia 4B Youth Flying Club.

The main sponsors were Malaysian Resources Corporation Bhd, Tenaga Nasional Bhd, Petronas and Edaran Otomobil Nasional Bhd with the *New Straits Times* as the official newspaper.

The air carnival started in 1998.

About 50,000 people visited the carnival where the aerial displays and joyrides were the crowd pullers.

The figures quoted by the organisers are paying visitors and it didn't take into account those who had complimentary passes and VIP visitors.

The 66 aircraft at the air carnival this

## *Karnival Udara Antarabangsa MELAKA*



### *International Air Carnival*

year were the highest number taking part in the series.

Taking cue from their success, the organisers have started planning for the next event scheduled to be held next year

Although no dates have been set for next year's carnival, Mohd Ali had, during the opening ceremony on Saturday, suggested that the event be held in August each year.

PM Warisan Media director Razak Shahrani said today the organisers were pleased with the way the exhibition had turned out.

He said all the exhibitors at the air carnival, including the foreign flying clubs, will be invited for next year's event.

"This means that the next exhibition will be bigger than what we had over the weekend," he said.

"Apart from participation, there are also some minor problems which cropped up during the event which we hope to be able to solve to ensure that next year's event will be better."

Although the Malacca International Air Carnival 2001 was nowhere near the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace exhibition, it nevertheless managed to draw in the crowd, thanks to the various aerial displays.

The ariel displays put up by the skydivers from the army's 10th Brigade Para and various skydiving clubs had entertained the crowd.

Unlike Lima where sophisticated and high-tech fighter jets show off their capabilities, the Malacca Air Carnival was the platform for the "less glamorous" para-gliders, micro-lights and light aircraft.