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Mahathir Projects

DR MAHATHIR INSPECTS PROGRESS OF PROJECTS IN LANGKAWI

LANGKAWI, July 8 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today toured Langkawi island to observe the progress made on various projects.

Dr Mahathir, who arrived here last night for a one-day working visit, was accompanied by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain, Langkawi Member of Parliament Datuk Abu Bakar Taib and other local dignitaries.

His first stop was at the Oriental Village, an integrated shopping complex, which encompasses the development of a cable car project linking the 708 metre-high Gunung Machinchang.

The RM46 million project, jointly undertaken by Dopple-Mayer of Austria and a local company, is expected to be completed by March next year.

Dr Mahathir was given a 30-minute briefing on the project's development by the managing director of Wyss Planning Consultants Sdn Bhd, Dr Peter A.Wyss.

Dr Wyss said the electric cable car project would become the world's six largest seater gondola with the longest span of 950 metre from Tower Two to the middle station, when it is completed in March next year.

The cable car project is now 25 per cent completed and would have two hill stations and a bridge to give the mountain some depth.

He said the 2.2km project was on schedule despite foundation work taking up six months as the mountain contained hard rocks.

Later, Dr Mahathir visited the Kok beach in Burau Bay where a rehabilitation and breakwater project is being implemented.

The RM29.6million project which was 73 per cent completed is being undertaken by the Langkawi Development Authority to turn Burau Bay into a new growth centre complete with a recreational park and shopping bazaars to attract more tourists.

The Prime Minister also visited the Morac International Kart racing circuit in Pantai Cenang which would be venue for several go-kart racing events including the Indy 40 Enduro Go-Kart Racing championship in August.

He also viewed work currently being carried out to expand the circuit from 990m to 1,230m, under a RM3 million project.

A grandstand that can accommodate 600 spectators would also be built under the expansion project expected to be completed in time to host the World Final Rotax Go-Kart championship in December.

Dr Mahathir also visited a mangrove swamp in Kilim, northeast of Langkawi after which he is expected to visit the nearby Gua Kelawar, the main tourist attraction here.

His last stop, before he departs for Kuala Lumpur at 6pm, will be at Galeria Perdana, which houses a collection of souvenirs received by the Prime Minister.

-- BERNAMA

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