

08 APR 2001

Mahathir-Projects

PM OBSERVES PROGRESS OF PROJECTS IN LANGKAWI

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

Dr Mahathir, who arrived here last night for a one-day working visit, began his tour with a visit to the snake sanctuary in Ulu Melaka.

The snake sanctuary was developed last year on a two-hectare site at a cost of RM3 million. It was opened to the public last month.

Dr Mahathir, who was accompanied by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain, was given a briefing on the snake sanctuary by "snake king" Othman Ayeab.

Later, Dr Mahathir visited the Kok Beach where a rehabilitation and breakwater project is being implemented at a cost of RM29.6 million in Burau Bay.

The project, undertaken by the Langkawi Development Authority (Lada), is to turn Burau Bay into a new growth centre with various infrastructure including a recreational park and shopping bazaars to attract more tourists.

Dr Mahathir was given a briefing on the project at a jetty which was converted as the jetty of the summer palace of King Mongkut for the shooting of the Hollywood production of "Anna and The King".

The prime minister later performed the ground-breaking of a cable car project at Burau Bay.

The project, when completed, will provide a cable car service from the Oriental Village integrated shopping complex to the Mat Cincang Mountain peak, 708 metres above sea level.

It is jointly undertaken by Dopppe-Mayer of Australia and a local company.

The project, costing RM46 million, is expected to be completed in 60 weeks.

Lada sought the services of Wyss Planning Consultants of Switzerland to conduct a feasibility study on the project in May last year.

This afternoon, Dr Mahathir is scheduled to meet sailor Datuk Azhar Mansor at the Berjaya Beach and Spa Resort.

In the meeting, Azhar is expected to hand over a proposal for the setting up of a youth motivation camp on a two-hectare site in Singa Besar island.

Dr Mahathir is then scheduled to observe the progress of the beautification project at Kuala Sungai Melaka.

The project, which includes a fish landing complex, costs RM29.7 million.

The prime minister is also scheduled to visit the Langkawi Yacht Repair Yard in Tanjung Lembung.

The project is jointly undertaken by Lada and the Penang Shipbuilding Corporation.

-- BERNAMA

NH RM