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Mahathir-disappointed

TRAVEL ADVISORIES WOULD SCARE AWAY TOURISTS, SAYS PM

LANGKAWI Nov 30 (bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today expressed disappointment with the travel advisories issue by developed countries against Malaysia. "We have protested it as it has implications on us," he said.

Although Malaysia's tourism promotion overseas are well-received, putting Malaysia on the travel advisories would scare away potential tourists," the Prime Minister said.

The number of tourists to Malaysia has decreased by between 100,000 and 300,000 a month since the advisories were issued, Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Paduka Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir said.

On the newly launched cable-car service in Langkawi, Dr Mahathir said it has progressed well after a month as all the gondolas had people in them. He said a RM2 million hanging-bridge would be built connecting the central station and the station at Gunung Machinchang's peak.

Dr Mahathir also witnessed the agreement signing between the Langkawi Development Authority and Syarikat Prasarana Negara Berhad.

Pasarana Chief Executive Ridza Abdoh Salleh said his company would manage, operate and maintain the cable-car service soon. Efforts are underway to make it the premier attraction in Langkawi, he said.

-- BERNAMA

NH PC