

01 OCT 2003

Mahathir-Yacht

GOVT HOPEFUL MORE YACHTERS WILL COME TO LANGKAWI

LANGKAWI, Oct 1 (Bernama) -- The Government hopes more yachters from all over the world will come to Langkawi as the island has a complete range of services and maintenance facilities for such vessels.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Langkawi with its natural beauty should be on the radar screen of every yachter.

"I hope more and more yachters will call and keep their boats in Langkawi as it has the facilities to do a complete service and maintenance of their vessels," he said when opening Business Focus' Wavemaster Langkawi Yacht Centre at the Tanjong Lembong Wharf here tonight.

Dr Mahathir said the Government was glad that Business Focus had taken the initiative to build such facilities which had helped in the overall development of this duty-free island.

Earlier, in his speech, Business Focus Executive Chairman Tan Sri Amin Shah Omar Shah said the company started developing the yacht centre in 2001 and commenced operations last year.

Todate, the centre had provided maintenance services to more than 140 vessels, ranging from motor yachts, sailing yachts, fast ferries and local ferries.

"The marked increase in the number of yachts patronising the centre in the first nine months of this year is a clear evidence of the recognition it continues to gain from the international yachting community," he said.

Present at the opening were the Prime Minister's wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, and Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain.

-- BERNAMA

MHI LES MAD TS