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Datuk Seri Najib Razak and Kedah Menteri Besar **Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir** sharing a light moment during the prime minister's visit to the Malaysian Fisheries Development Authority jetty in Cenang yesterday. Pic by Amran Hamid

Najib banters with Mukhriz in Langkawi

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LANGKAWI: Like the warm and sunny weather here, such an atmosphere prevailed as Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak and Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir welcomed AirAsia Bhd's maiden flight from Guangzhou yesterday.

Both Najib and Mukhriz appeared to be in high spirits as they shared a light moment with AirAsia group chief executive officer Tan Sri Tony Fernandes and Transport Minister

Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai.

There was no hint of tension even as a leadership crisis hung over the state.

The mood was more celebratory than anything else, as Najib even bantered with Mukhriz towards the end of his speech.

"So, I'm sure all the state representatives are very happy, Rawi (state executive councillor Datuk Mohd Rawi Abdul Hamid) is here, Datuk Nawawi Ahmad (Langkawi

member of parliament), all these people are very happy.

"Of course, Datuk Seri Mukhriz is still smiling (laughs). So I guess everybody here is happy with today's event and I hope this will signify the next level.

"Not just in direct flights, but in the growth and development of tourism in Langkawi."

Fernandes, in his speech, said that everyone looked good in their red AirAsia caps, which elicited laugh-

ter from the audience.

The jovial mood continued at the lunch gathering with the island's fishermen at the Malaysian Fisheries Development Authority jetty at Cenang.

Mukhriz was all smiles and did not seem perturbed by the loss of confidence declared by the state Umno leaders.

"*Tak ada. Okay lah,*" (There is nothing. It's okay) he said when asked about the crisis.