

**Leniency Can Help Avert Delay In Langkawi Development - Mahathir
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LANGKAWI, Oct 30 (Bernama) -- Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad today expressed the hope for leniency in the government's implementation of the Langkawi Five-Year Tourism Development Master Plan so as to avert any delay in the utilisation of the development allocation.

He said any development project often took a long time for implementation, especially when it came to acquisition of land.

"If there is leniency, we can achieve what we want to do. Acquiring land itself can take up to a year. So, the allocation remains unspent.

"I believe the Kedah government can approve land applications quickly but there are government procedures to follow. This takes time," he told Bernama.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, in tabling Budget 2012, announced that the RM420-million Langkawi Five-Year Tourism Development Master Plan would be launched to promote tourist arrivals and domestic tourism.

Among the initiatives are restructuring the Langkawi Development Authority, setting up a park rangers unit and upgrading museums, beaches and small businesses.

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