

**Participation Of Commercial Sector Players In LIMA Can Improve Defence Industry's Position**  
**Bernama**  
**Mar 6, 2015**

LANGKAWI, March 6 (Bernama) -- The participation of more players from the commercial sector in the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA) 2015 can help improve the defence industry's position as key contributor to national economy.

Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein today said the International Trade and Industry Ministry and Transport Ministry's debut participation in LIMA was also capable of luring more commercial sector players to get involved in taking the industry to greater heights.

"This is a very apt approach taken in (the organising of) future LIMA to put a balance on the military to commercial asset ratio and to see the defence industry as a catalyst for strengthening our economy in the future," he told reporters after chairing the second meeting of the Ministerial Level LIMA 2015 Coordination Committee here today.

He said various new programmes had been lined up for LIMA 2015 which were expected to become an exemplary model to future organising of the exhibition.

The minister said LIMA 2015, which would also focus on the participation of ASEAN, would also provide the opportunity to Malaysia to prove its advantages and uniqueness.

Hishammuddin said apart from ministers from ASEAN ministers, a total of 150 youth from the association would also participate in LIMA this year.

"This is the best opportunity not only to help promote the maritime and aerospace industry, but also to position ourselves and showcase the advantages we have to the world," he said.

A total of 512 maritime and aerospace companies from 36 countries have confirmed their participation in LIMA 2015 which is scheduled to be held here from March 17 to 21.

According to Hishammuddin, this would be the biggest participation ever in LIMA's history.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2015 BERNAMA

Source : <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1114526>