

LIMA'17: Najib Officiates Naming Of MMEA's 'KM Pekan' Patrol Vessel

LANGKAWI, March 21 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today officiated the naming ceremony of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency's (MMEA) latest asset, 'KM Pekan'.

"Bismillahirrahmanirahim (In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful)...I name this MMEA ship 'KM Pekan'. May God bless her," he said at the ceremony held in conjunction with the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition 2017 (LIMA'17) here.

Also present were Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein and the Deputy Land Infrastructure, Transportation and Tourism Minister of Japan, Tanaka Ryosei.

Meanwhile, MMEA director-general Admiral Maritime Datuk Seri Ahmad Puzi Ab Kahar said the Japanese government had given 'KM Pekan', along with another offshore patrol vessel, as gifts last year.

"We have also sent our set of crew to Japan to bring home another vessel like KM Pekan, which will arrive next month," he said.

KM Pekan patrol vessel

Ahmad Puzi said in addition to the gifts, the Japanese government had also offered assistance amounting to RM30 million to upgrade the facilities onboard the vessels.

"We will upgrade these ships including the radars to suit the operational needs along the country's territorial waters," he said.

The 92-metre long KM Pekan can cruise up to 20 knots and is equipped with a helipad and the latest radar.

The vessel is capable of carrying out sea operations and patrols in the South China Sea and the east coast of Sabah for 30 days at a time to help in law enforcement and missions in the area.

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