

26 MAY 1996

CRANE ON ALOR SETAR TOWER CRASHED

ALOR SETAR, May 26 (Bernama) -- A construction crane atop the Alor Setar Tower came crashing down on the roof of the podium at the foot of the tower, while it was being tested today.

According to a worker at the construction site, who wished to remain anonymous, the crane was assembled on the tower last week and was hoisting up a two-tonne load to test its reliability, when it collapsed at about 2.40pm.

About 10 workers who were at the work site escaped unhurt.

The impact of the crash left cracks on the podium roof, a huge crater and deep cracks on the floor.

A worker who was in the toilet of the podium ran for safety when he heard the loud crashing sound and felt the building vibrating.

The 165.5 metre high tower, owned by Telekom Malaysia Berhad, has been in the construction stage in phases since 1994.

Its foundation stone was laid by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. -- BERNAMA

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