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LEAD-Electricity

MANY ACTIVITIES AFFECTED BY POWER FAILURE

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 3 (Bernama) -- The whole of Peninsular Malaysia is in darkness following a power failure which began at about 5pm today.

Up till 9pm, Tenaga Nasional Berhad had still not issued any statement on the cause of the failure or when power would be restored.

However, unofficial information said the power failure was caused by a breakdown at the Paka power station in Kemaman, Terengganu.

Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Post, Datuk Leo Moggie and Tenaga Nasional executive chairman Tan Sri Dr Ani Arope are now at the control room of the Tenaga Nasional headquarters at Bangsar.

Upon arrival at the Tenaga Nasional headquarters, Moggie told the press that he had not been briefed about the cause of the breakdown and would meet reporters later.

"Wait and let me investigate first, then I will let you know," he told reporters who had surrounded him to find out the cause for the power failure.

Meanwhile, several functions which were scheduled to be held here and in other towns this evening had been postponed because of the power failure.

In the federal capital, the dinner in conjunction with the MIC Golden Jubilee which had been scheduled to be attended by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had been postponed.

At the Merdeka Stadium, the final of the FA Cup football match between Sarawak and Kedah was postponed to tomorrow.

In Pulau Pinang, the Gerakan Wanita meeting at the Komtar building which had been scheduled to be officiated by Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon tonight had also been postponed.

Gerakan Wanita head Datuk Kee Phaik Chin said she was made to understand that there was an "explosion" at the Paka station.

KTM Komuter said its services stopped instantly following the breakdown and its coaches had to be pulled using diesel powered engines.

A spokesman of Hospital Kuala Lumpur said the hospital was using its own power generator. -- BERNAMA

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