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KLIA-Test

ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR ASIA'S NEWEST AIRPORT

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 14 (Bernama) -- Asia's newest airport, the RM9 billion Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) in Sepang is scheduled to receive its first landing -- a Malaysia Airlines (MAS) Boeing 747 -- tomorrow.

Amid the haze pollution hanging over the country, the test landing will be witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who will lead the Cabinet members.

They will also observe the progress of the works at the airport.

A Transport Ministry official said the landing of the Boeing 747 would be the highlight of the commencement of basic trial at the airport which is expected to start commercial operations during the first quarter of next year.

However, it could not be immediately confirmed if the authorities have given the green light for the landing due to the worsening hazy condition. MAS was forced to cancel some flights a few days ago due to poor visibility.

Kuala Lumpur International Airport Berhad (KLIAB) coordinator Hamrin Buang said on Sept 10 that the final decision to land would be made on the day itself (tomorrow), depending on the situation as safety would be given priority.

Hamrin had expressed confidence that the haze would not pose any problem or delay the scheduled test run.

Hamrin said KLIAB was working closely with Malaysia Airports Berhad, MAS, the Department of Civil Aviation and the Meteorological Services Department regarding the landing.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said on Aug 14 that the on-schedule installation of KLIA's Total Airport Management System (TAMS) would allow the airport to conduct basic trials as planned tomorrow.

TAMS is a sophisticated data sourcing and processing system that interfaces with and integrates the various electronic sub-systems within the KLIA, thus creating a single point for entire airport operations and management.

The system interfaces with and intergrates 29 airport sub-systems for crisis control, flight information display, gate collection, card access, meteorological, air traffic management and baggage handling.

Dr Ling said the first trial run would be followed by advance trials on Dec 15. -- BERNAMA

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