

12 MAY 1997

Flights-Reschedule

FLIGHTS AT SUBANG AIRPORT AFFECTED BY BAD WEATHER

KUALA LUMPUR, May 12 (Bernama) -- Several domestic and international flights scheduled to land at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah airport in Subang this evening, were diverted to other airports or had their arrival time rescheduled due to bad weather.

An air traffic control centre spokesman said heavy rain and thunder in Subang and Petaling Jaya at about 5pm affected the visibility at the airport.

"We directed the affected flights to land at the Bayan Lepas airport in Pulau Pinang, while those that have yet to take off had their arrival times rescheduled," he said when contacted by Bernama.

The rescheduled flights include those by Malaysia Airlines from Vientiane (Laos), Denpasar (Indonesia), Johor Baharu and Alor Setar.

Also affected were Pelangi Air's flights from Banda Aceh (Indonesia) and Kerteh.

The arrival times for these flights were rescheduled to between 8pm and 11.50pm tonight.

The spokesman said departing flights affected by the bad weather included those by Malaysia Airlines to Kuala Terengganu, Langkawi, Pulau Pinang, Miri and Johor Baharu, as well as a Pelangi Air flight to Kertih.

These flights will be allowed to depart from the airport in Subang in stages after 9pm when the visibility returns to normal, he said.

Meanwhile, bad weather also forced a special aircraft carrying Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad from Langkawi to return to the island.

Bernama understands that the plane which left Langkawi at 5.55pm was directed to land at the Bayan Lepas airport because the visibility at Subang had come down to just about 500 metres.

However, the aircraft went back to the Padang Mat Sirat airport in Langkawi because there were already several other planes stacking to land in Pulau Pinang. -- BERNAMA

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