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MIRI CRASH:TRANSPORT MINISTRY AWAITS DCA REPORT

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 8 (Bernama) -- The Transport Ministry is awaiting a report by the Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) on Saturday's crash of a chartered plane in Miri before deciding on the next course of action.

Its deputy minister Datuk Wira Ali Rustam said DCA director-general Datuk Zaini Omar could have briefed Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik on the crash which killed 10 people.

Dr Ling left for Ulan Bator today accompanying Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on a four-day visit to Mongolia.

"I will get in touch with the DCA director-general today," Ali, who was at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah International airport in Subang to see off the prime minister, told reporters.

Six Malaysians, including the two pilots, and four foreigners were killed in the tragedy when the German-made Dornier 228-212 plane, arriving from Brunei, slammed into a hill at the popular Lambir Hills National Park, 14km from Miri airport.

Yesterday, A DCA official in Miri told Bernama that a 10-member team headed by Capt Shukor Aziz to investigate the crash may take between one and two months to complete their task.

Ali is scheduled to leave for Miri later today and hope to get a full briefing on the crash from the DCA.-- BERNAMA

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