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Mahathir-Crash

PM EXPRESS SADNESS OVER PLANE CRASH IN LANGKAWI

LANGKAWI, March 2 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has extended his condolences to the families of the three men who were killed when a chartered Cessna 172 light aircraft belonging to Mofaz Air crashed into a mangrove swamp in Kelibang here today.

"I am most sad over the incident....I extend my condolences to their families," he told reporters at the Langkawi International Airport before leaving for Kuala Lumpur.

Earlier, he flagged off participants of Le Tour de Langkawi on the 12th and final stage of the cycling race, and gave away prizes to winners of the Asean Kart Prix here.

The Prime Minister said he had not been informed anything yet about the cause the crash.

"It's possible that the plane was flying low at the time... the cause of the crash has not been ascertained," he said.

Two Filem Negara Malaysia cameramen Abdul Razak Md Nor, 43, and Ishak Latif, 32, both of Kuala Lumpur, as well as pilot Nik Alfian Nik Abdul Ghani, 25, died in the 3.45pm incident.

The tragedy occurred barely 15 minutes after Dr Mahathir flagged off the racers.

The aircraft was chartered by Filem Negara to cover Le Tour de Langkawi. -- BERNAMA

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