

22 SEP 1997

TWO AIRCRAFT TOOK OFF FROM MIRI AIRPORT

MIRI, Sept 22 (Bernama) -- Two aircraft took off from the Miri Airport this afternoon despite being enveloped by haze.

The first to depart was a Boeing 737-400 flight MH2551 with 135 passengers to Kuala Lumpur at 1.30pm.

The other was a Fokker-50 flight MH2800 with 52 passengers to Kota Kinabalu, a spokesman of the Miri Malaysia Airports Berhad said today.

Many of the passengers on board were stranded here since Friday when the airport was closed following the declaration of a state of Haze Emergency in Sarawak by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is also National Operations director.

Meanwhile, a check at the Baram river estuary showed ferry and express boat services were operating as usual despite the poor visibility due to the haze. -- BERNAMA

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