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Annuar-airport

KELANTAN AIRPORT OPERATING AT FULL CAPACITY, SAYS ANNUAR

KOTA BAHARU, Jan 18 (Bernama) -- The Sultan Ismail Putra Airport in Kelantan is in dire need of renovations and expansion as it has been operating at full cargo and passenger capacity for the past few years, Rural Development Minister Datuk Annuar Musa said today.

He said his ministry was considering plans, which had been postponed for the past 10 years, to give the 50-year-old airport a facelift in order to attract investors to the state.

The first alternative, estimated to cost RM15 million, would involve extending the present one-storey airport building to two stories and doubling the present hangar capacity.

The second alternative, estimated to cost up to RM50 million, would involve building a new terminal building besides doubling the hangar capacity.

Annuar said the first alternative was not a good idea as it could not fully address the problem while the second was too costly a long term solution.

Speaking to reporters after attending a briefing by Malaysia Airport Berhad Manager Abdul Wahab Mohamed Yusof here, Annuar said the airport, among the busiest in the country, currently serviced some 300,000 passengers and 500,000kg of cargo a year at the rate of at least 12 flights a day.

He said he would discuss the matter with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and obtain their approval. -- BERNAMA

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