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Pilatus-Report

REPORT ON PILATUS INQUIRY IN THE FINAL STAGE, SAYS NAJIB

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 23 (Bernama) -- Defence Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak will announce the outcome of the inquiry into the crash of the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) Pilatus PC-7 in Kedah on Aug 12 that killed its woman pilot.

RMAF Chief Jen Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad said the report would be submitted to the Defence Minister upon his return from Sweden. Najib is in the delegation accompanying Prime Minister Datuk Seri dr Mahathir Mohamad on an official visit to Sweden.

"That's the procedure we have to follow...I will explain the outcome to the Defence Minister and he will then announce it to the public," he told reporters after presenting a cheque worth RM161,000 from the Armed Forces Group Insurance Scheme and contributions from Airod Sdn Bhd to the next-of-kin of Lt Mai Elny Sefrina Jalaluddin who died in the crash.

The cheque was received by her parents, Jalaluddin Udin and Sharifah Sapiah Syed Hassan.

The Pilatus trainer aircraft crashed in a rubber plantation at Kampung Batu 25, Jalan Bukit Kayu Hitam-Changlun, Kedah.

The crash was the first involving a woman trainee since the RMAF took in women pilots in 1986.

A board of inquiry had been set up to investigate the crash.

Meanwhile, Abdullah said the Pilatus aircraft was still being used for pilot training after the crash.

-- BERNAMA

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