

Sultan's flight plan grounded
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Regina Lee

Plans to pick up the Sultan of Kelantan from Kota Bharu to Kuala Lumpur appears to be shelved for now.

NONEsources have said that flight plans of a government aircraft scheduled to pick up Sultan Tuanku Ismail Petra (right) from the Kota Bharu airport at 2.30pm, has been cancelled.

The Star reported that it was because Tuanku Ismail's blood pressure shot up.

According to the website, the Sultan was also to have board the aircraft, but it was not given permission to land at the airport.

When contacted by Malaysiakini, comptroller of the Kelantan royal household Abdul Halim Hamad said: "I have not received any orders to move the Sultan out of (Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia)."

Abdul Halim added that Tuanku Ismail is still in HUSM in Kota Bharu, as far as he knows.

Utusan Online earlier today carried the story that Tuanku Ismail was expected to be transferred to the Kuala Lumpur Hospital (HKL) for further medical treatment.

The report added that he will be accompanied by his consort Tengku Anis Tengku Abdul Hamid.

And according to the Sin Chew Daily Tuanku Ismail's second wife Elia Suhana Ahmad had paid him a visit in the royal ward in HUSM, Kubang Kerian for about an hour last night, but left without speaking to the press waiting outside.

Divorce proceedings between her and the Sultan have started in February when his Syariah lawyer said that Ismail had pronounced the lafaz talak (divorce proclamation) to Elia Suhana in front of several witnesses that month.

However, she has fought back in court after it was revealed that the plaintiff was not the Sultan himself, but a 60-year-old woman named Nik Rorhana Wan Abdul Rahman.

Turbulent times

The Kelantan royal household has experienced some turbulent times when Tuanku Ismail, Tengku Anis, their third son Tengku Muhammad Fakhry Petra and their entourage were allegedly stopped en route to the airport in Kota Bharu.

On Tuesday, they had wanted to go to the Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore for 10 days for the Sultan to undergo follow up treatment for his heart ailment.

They were then rerouted when HUSM and lawyers acting on behalf of the Sultan and his consort claimed that they were not allowed to meet their clients.

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03Tengku Fakhry (left) had also claimed that the private jet they had chartered to pick up the Sultan was not given permission to land at the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport and that he was detained at the police station for four hours.

Tengku Anis had also previously told the Malay Mail that she had been holed up at HUSM since last night to evade police arrest and to be by the side of her husband, and that she was "pulled like a cow" in an attempt to get her to the police station.

Previously, Abdul Halim said the Regent of Kelantan, Tengku Muhammad Faris Petra, who is also Tuanku Ismail's eldest son, had instructed state police chief Abdul Rahim Hanafi to ensure the safety of the ruler.

Abdul Halim said the heightened security was needed in view of the shooting of palace guard Ramli Mohamad, 50, by an unidentified person on May 1. Ramli was badly wounded in the chest after he was shot four times.

"Based on the instruction, the police stepped up security from May 4," he told a news conference in Kota Bharu yesterday.

The two brothers, Faris and Fakhry, have been embroiled in an ugly spat. Faris, who is the state regent, had last September removed his younger brother from the state's Council of Succession which determines who ascends to the throne.

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