

RMAF Will Make Official Statement On Sendayan Soon
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KUALA LUMPUR -- The Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) will be making an official statement soon on its new air base in Sendayan, Negeri Sembilan, which will replace its Sungai Besi air base, said Defence Minister Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

He said RMAF would provide more details as to costs and procurement of replacement assets in moving to the new base.

"RMAF will also provide an explanation on air movements at the Sendayan base because currently, the Sungai Besi base is also being shared with the Police and other government agencies," he told a press conference after witnessing the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Boustead Defence Technologies Sdn Bhd and Prokhas Managers Sdn Bhd, here yesterday.

Zahid was asked for more details on the new air base in Sendayan.

Also present was Malaysian Defence Forces chief Azizan Ariffin.

On May 28, Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak announced that Sendayan, located about 12 kilometres from Seremban, had been chosen as the new site to replace the Sungai Besi air base here, which will be developed into an urban commercial and housing complex.

Ahmad Zahid said various sites were proposed to host the new base but in the end the government decided on Sendayan because of its proximity to the Klang Valley which meant that the existing staff at the Sungai Besi base would not have to relocate too far.

On the 10th Shangri-La-IISS (Institute of International Strategic Studies) in Singapore this week, Ahmad Zahid said Najib was scheduled to deliver the keynote address while he himself would be presenting a paper titled "Maritime Security".

The prime minister would also hold talks with United States' defence secretary Robert Gates on the sidelines of the meeting, he said, adding that he would also be having discussions with China's Defence Minister Liang Guanglie, Singapore's new defence minister Dr Ng Eng Hen and several other defence ministers.

(Bernama)

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