



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim comforting a family member of a victim of the Elmina plane crash, at Tengku Ampuan Rahimah Hospital in Klang yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

EXTENDS CONDOLENCES

PM PLEDGES SUPPORT, ASSISTANCE TO KIN

Anwar satisfied with efforts by agencies in retrieving remains of victims, handling of identification process

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THE federal government will provide all the necessary support and assistance to the next of kin of victims who died in Thursday's Elmina plane crash, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said.

The prime minister said this included assistance for the families to handle the burial rites for their loved ones who were killed in the tragic accident.

"The government will also provide assistance to the families who incurred additional expenses to purchase equipment and get

accommodation (near the hospital), especially for those without permanent employment and stable income," he said here yesterday.

Anwar said he was satisfied with the efforts by the government departments and agencies in retrieving the remains of the victims and handling the (identification) process at Tengku Ampuan Rahimah Hospital (HTAR).

"Since yesterday (Thursday), I have been following the developments of the incident.

"*Alhamdulillah*, I am satisfied with the actions of personnel from the enforcement and security agencies, the representatives of the Islamic Religious Department, the (hospital's and police's) forensic teams, the Welfare Department and several other government bodies.

"The preparations made, including accommodation (for the next of kin of victims), have been managed effectively. I thank those who helped and am proud of their service delivery," he said.

Earlier, Anwar paid a visit to the families of the victims at HTAR's

forensic department.

Present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Health Minister Dr Zaliha Mustafa, Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail and caretaker Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari.

Anwar Spent almost 10 minutes speaking to the next of kin of the victims.

"I would like to extend my condolences to the families of the victims. I pray that they remain strong in this difficult time.

"No one imagined such an accident could happen.

"All that we can do at the moment is accelerate the forensic investigation and the matching of DNA (to facilitate the identification of remains).

"Once all these processes are concluded, the Islamic Religious Council or the Selangor government will do what is necessary (to facilitate the burial rites for the victims)."

Anwar later performed Friday prayers at Masjid Jamek Ar-Rahimiah near the hospital.