

KING, PM EXTEND CONDOLENCES TO VICTIMS' FAMILIES

Sultan Ibrahim wants armed forces to conduct detailed probe into helicopter crash.

KUALA LUMPUR

HIS Majesty Sultan Ibrahim, King of Malaysia has extended his condolences to the families of those who died in the helicopter crash in Lumut, Perak, yesterday.

In a post on Sultan Ibrahim's official Facebook page, the king

also called for a full investigation into the tragedy.

"(Raja Permaisuri Agong) Raja Zarith Sofiah and I feel deeply saddened by the loss of our national heroes in this tragedy.

"Al-Fatihah and heartfelt condolences to those who have left us forever. May they be placed among the believers and martyrs.

"I also want the armed forces to conduct a detailed investigation to obtain full information regarding this incident," he said.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said a full investigation was being carried out to establish the cause of the deadly mid-air collision involving two military helicopters.

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"I have been informed that an investigation has been swiftly launched by the Defence Ministry, specifically the Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN) to establish the cause of the incident," he wrote in a social media posting.

Anwar extended his condolences to the victims' families.

He described the tragedy as a loss for the armed forces and Malaysia.

"The country joins in sorrow over this heartbreaking tragedy. (I extend my) Condolences to the families of the victims, and may they be granted strength to face this tragedy.

"This incident has deeply affected the armed forces 'family', and is a massive loss for

the country.

"May the souls of those who perished receive blessings and have their sins forgiven.

"May God bless them and place them among the righteous," he said.

Earlier yesterday, two armed forces helicopters crashed mid-air over a naval base in Lumut.

All 10 crew members on board both helicopters perished.

The helicopters, an AgustaWestland AW139 Maritime Operations Helicopter (HOM) with the tail number M503-3 and a Eurocopter AS555 Fennec with the tail number M502-6, had collided during a mid-air manoeuvre during a flypast training for the RMN's 90th anniversary.

pg. 4