

## **All Eyes On Mas' Missing B777**

**Bernama**

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KUALA LUMPUR, March 8 (Bernama) -- The world's focus is now on the missing MH370 Boeing 777-200, a long-range wide-body twin-engine jet, flown by Malaysia Airlines (MAS), carrying 239 passengers from 15 different countries.

The 777-200 plane, manufactured by the one of the world's well-known aircraft manufacturers, Boeing Commercial Airplanes, is regarded as one of the world's most popular and safest jets.

The plane is one of Boeing's best-selling models and most-favoured by airlines on the back of its capability of flying extremely long haul.

The longest flight it would be capable of would be longer than 18 hours.

By having just two engines, the plane burns lesser fuel than four-engine jets and could fly up to 12,779 km, or 6,900 nautical miles, with 282 passenger seating capacity.

MAS said Saturday its MH370, code-shared with China Southern Airlines, lost communication over the South China Sea, carrying 227 passengers including two infants and 12 crew on board.

The airline announced search-and-rescue teams have been initiated to locate the aircraft that went missing en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing.

Boeing in a statement issued from Seattle said it was assembling a team to provide technical assistance to investigating authorities.

It offered its deepest concern to the families of those aboard the missing MH370.

MH370 departed Kuala Lumpur at 12.41am local time and was scheduled to land at Beijing International Airport at 6.30am local Beijing time.

The missing plane was one of MAS' 15 Boeing 777-200s.

The first 777 model, the 777-200, entered service in 1995 with the United Airlines as the first airline in service.

Since then, four additional 777 models have been launched, including the longer-range models in February 2000.

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