

MAHB Airports Handle 6.52 Million Passenger Movements In Feb 2014
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KUALA LUMPUR, March 28 (Bernama) -- Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (MAHB) said its airports handled 6.52 million passenger movements in February 2014, an increase by 17.5 per cent over the same month last year.

International passengers grew by 15 per cent with 3.21 million passengers while domestic traffic registered a 19.9 per cent growth with 3.31 million passengers.

"This is a commendable growth considering the high February 2013 base due to the Chinese New Year (CNY). The CNY moved forward to January 2014," it said in a statement Friday.

MAHB said the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) main terminal grew by 18.7 per cent to 2.11 million passengers while the KLIA Low-Cost Carrier Terminal (LCCT) rose by 13.9 per cent, handling 1.76 million passengers.

The airport operator said both the KLIA Main Terminal Building and KLIA LCCT displayed steady balanced growth over last few months.

A record growth of 21.6 per cent was registered for the first two months of this year compared with the same period in 2013.

"It is encouraging to note that the sound performance was contributed by all the main airline operators namely Malaysia Airlines group, AirAsia group, Malindo Air and foreign airlines.

Aircraft movements recorded an increase of 10.4 per cent for February 2014 against the same period in 2014, registering 59,166 movements while average load factor remained encouraging at 75 per cent.

On outlook, MAHB said the current development on MH370 might have some short-term dampening effect on traffic performance.

"In the intermediate term to date up to last three weeks after the jetliner lost the course on March 8, the passenger traffic growth continues to remain in double-digit range year-on-year.

"Our analysis of past incidences elsewhere does not show significant impact on traffic as well in the countries affected by such incidences.

"Nevertheless, MH370 incident could be of a different dimension and negative impact on passenger traffic could not be entirely ruled out," it said.

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