

MH370 announcement based on most conclusive indications, says Najib

Malaysian Insider

25 March, 2014

By Diyana Ibrahim

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak told Parliament today his announcement last night that the missing MH370 flight ended in the Indian Ocean was based on the "most conclusive" indications and information obtained.

He said this when tabling a motion to express condolences to the families of 239 passengers and crew members on board MH370 in Parliament this morning.

Najib said it was a government's duty to reveal information in the shortest time possible.

"It is the responsibility of a nation's leader and the commitment of the government to decide on making such an announcement. The decision was made even when we know its implications.

"I made the decision to make the official announcement last night after we received the information because we do not want to give the impression that we are withholding the news from the families," he said moving the motion.

Najib also expressed regret and sadness for what the families of the passengers and crew for what they were going through in this difficult time.

He said Parliament extended its condolences to all the families affected by this tragedy.

Najib announced in an emergency press conference at 10pm yesterday that Malaysia Airlines flight MH370, which was travelling from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing on March 8, "ended" in a remote area in the Indian Ocean.

The families of the passengers and crew were informed that there were likely no survivors.

Najib said the government's focus now was to search for objects and debris from the airliner.

He said this was to confirm unequivocally that the Malaysia Airlines (MAS) Flight MH370 "ended in the Indian Ocean", though it might take a long time besides having to overcome severe challenges.

"What we have to do in the coming weeks and, perhaps, months is to search for all debris and objects belonging to flight MH370.

"Undeniably, the area (of the search) is most difficult and challenging, meaning we will have to face unexpected and extraordinary challenges in looking for the debris and objects."

Najib said the government was committed to locating the black box.

MPs are currently debating the motion. – March 25, 2014.

Source: <http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/mh370-annoucement-based-on-most-conclusive-indications-says-najib>