

Bangkok blast: Minister says government to give RM10,000 to victims' families

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GEORGE TOWN, Aug 20 — The government would contribute RM10,000 to each family of the victims of Monday's bomb blast in Bangkok, said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Mah Siew Keong.

He said the contributions were aimed at helping the families in funeral expenses, among others.

"We strongly condemn the incident...it is an act of terrorism. The families are very unfortunate," he added.

Mah was speaking to reporters after accompanying the four bodies of the victims at the Penang International Airport (LTAPP) Cargo Complex in Bayan Lepas near here tonight.

The bodies of Lim Siew Gaik, 49; son-in-law, Lee Tze Siang, 33; son Neoh Jai Jun, 20; and grand-daughter Lee Jing Xuan, four, were flown from Bangkok on a Thai Airways TG 425 aircraft and arrived at LTAPP at 11pm.

Also seen accompanying the bodies was Siew Gaik's daughter, Neoh Yee Ling, 33, who was unscathed in the incident. About 20 family members waited at the LTAPP Cargo Complex since 9pm.

Others who turned up to accompany the bodies were Women, Family and Community Development Deputy Minister, Datin Paduka Chew Mei Fun, Penang Umno Liaison Committee secretary Datuk Musa Sheikh Fadzir and state Barisan Nasional leaders.

In the incident, the four were killed and three others injured in the bomb blast about 7pm (8pm Malaysian time) at the Ratchaprasong junction near the Erawan Shrine and shopping centres in Bangkok.

Two of the injured Malaysians were identified as Tan Eui Hun, 29, and Tan Kim Siok, 52, both from Kelantan. — Bernama

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