

**Rescue Teams Were Efficient In Rescue Efforts – Muhyiddin
Bernama
June 7, 2015**

RANAU, June 7 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin praised the efficiency of the rescue teams comprising members of various agencies, including mountain guides, who worked feverishly to save victims who were trapped in the earthquake in Ranau and on Mount Kinabalu.

Muhyiddin thanked the rescue teams which comprised the police, fire and rescue department, armed forces, Special Malaysian Disaster Assistance and Rescue (SMART) team and the Malaysian Civil Defence Department (JPAM) for successfully carrying out their duties despite the dangers and difficulties involved.

"We want to say thank you and congratulations to them because action was taken immediately, and secondly, this is a popular area, many climbers had come here including at the time of the incident, hundreds of climbers were up there (peak of Mount Kinabalu).

"The district police chief provide data on climbers from Singapore, Japan, Turkey, Malaysia, etc. This figure has been conveyed to me including those who died as a result of the tremors up there and most of the bodies have been brought down," he told reporters after attending a briefing on the earthquake in Ranau at Restoran Liwagu in Kinabalu Park, Kundasang by Ranau District Police Chief DSP Farhan Lee Abdullah.

Also present were Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman, Deputy Chief Ministers Datuk Seri Yahya Hussin and Tan Sri Joseph Pairin Kitingan, Minister of Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Datuk Abdul Rahman Dahlan, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation Datuk Ewon Ebin and Sabah Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment Datuk Seri Masidi Manjun.

According to Muhyiddin, he was made to understand that weather permitting, five more bodies would be brought down from Mount Kinabalu today using a helicopter.

He said although bodies of some who had died and victims who were safe had been brought down, there were still 56 rescue teams on the mountain saying all the victims must be immediately brought down so that the rescue teams could leave the disaster site as the tremors were still recurring from time to time.

"It is also important for those who are still up there to be quickly brought down to a safe place, and this can only be done once the rescue efforts are completed.

"I wish to convey my condolences to the families of the climbers and our personnel who died in the unfortunate incident," he said.

Meanwhile, Muhyiddin also announced a RM10,000 financial aid to families of the earthquake victims who are Malaysian citizens, was from the Federal Government and the

state government.

"The federal government together with the state government will help (the families of) those who perished," he said.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2015 BERNAMA

Source : <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1141853>