

BERNAMAPIX

**PATRIOTIC CRY ...**

Teachers and students of SMK Darul Ehsan shouting "Merdeka" out loud as they stand around a giant Jalur Gemilang they created from pebbles in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. The school is the district champion in the flying the flag campaign organised by the National Unity and Integration Department in conjunction with the 57th Merdeka Day celebrations.



**Sultan cuts short trip to Hungary**

**PETALING JAYA:** In view of the political developments in the state, Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah will cut short his trip to Hungary and return on Saturday.

Palace sources told *theSun* that as of yesterday, it had not received any letter from any party wanting to seek an audience with the ruler.

The Sultan had previously ordered Menteri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim not to make any decision or announcement with regard to his position until he returns on Aug 27.

Khalid had an audience with the Sultan on Aug 11, two days after he was sacked from PKR, to state his stand and clarify the allegations hurled at him.

Khalid's position as menteri besar has become untenable after PAS withdrew its support for him on Sunday.

Pakatan Rakyat has nominated Parti Keadilan Rakyat president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail as the next menteri besar.

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**BRIEFS**

**GLOOMY FRIDAY FORECAST**

**PETALING JAYA:** The Meteorological Department has predicted gloomy weather tomorrow morning. With tomorrow declared a national day of mourning with the arrival of the first batch of 20 MH17 victims' remains, even the heavens will weep as slight rainfall has been forecast for the coastal areas of Malacca, Negri Sembilan and Johor in the morning. By afternoon, thunderstorm is forecast in Kuala Lumpur, which can go on until late evening.

**CONDOLENCES FOR KELANTAN REP'S KIN**

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak has extended condolences to the family of Datuk Noor Zahidi Omar, the Barisan Nasional assemblyman for Pengkalan Kubor, Kelantan, who died yesterday. "Condolences to the family of Datuk Noor Zahidi Omar, Pengkalan Kubor assemblyman, who passed away this (Wednesday) morning. May God bless his soul. Al-Fatihah," Najib said in a post on his Twitter account. Noor Zahidi, 57, died of liver cancer at a hospital in Guangzhou, China, at 5.45am. He was 57.

**Remains of 20 victims to arrive tomorrow**

> They will be brought back in 17 coffins, 3 urns

BY **HAIKAL JALIL AND AIEZAT FADZELL**  
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**PUTRAJAYA:** The remains of 20 Malaysians who perished in the MH17 tragedy will be flown home tomorrow.

Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein said remains of 17 victims will be brought back in coffins and three in urns. "We invite all assemblymen and MPs to attend the ceremony at Bunga Raya Complex."

"Although there will be an increase in the number of bodies arriving, it will not jeopardise the template of the ceremony," he told a press conference held at the Communications and Multimedia Ministry yesterday.

He said the remains of a Dutch national will not arrive tomorrow as scheduled due to some reasons, which he did not disclose.

Hishammuddin said the remains will be taken to their respective states for funeral rites.

"In Perak, the remains will be flown to Ipoh using C-130 aircraft, and in Johor, we will use EC725 helicopters to bring the bodies to Segamat and Pagoh."

In Kuching, there will be additional flights to fly the remains, he added.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak had an audience with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, to ask for His Majesty's attendance at the ceremony.

"His Majesty has confirmed his attendance. In Perak, Sultan Dr Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah is expected to attend the ceremony in his state," he said.



Hishammuddin said the name of the 20 victims will be released today.

He said preparations are also being made for the remains of the second batch of victims to arrive on Aug 24.

Meanwhile, Multimedia Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Shabery Cheek Shabery said a minute of silence will be held between 10.45am and 11.15am tomorrow.

"They (the public) are advised to stand up and pay their respect for one minute. Those in their offices, schools and even those driving are encouraged to observe the moment," he added.

In Penang, Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng said the state government intends to telecast the event live on a screen in front of Maybank in Komtar.

In Sarawak, the state government is considering giving aid to the victims' kin.

**RTM to give live coverage**

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Radio Televisyen Malaysia (RTM) will broadcast live the ceremonial honours for the flight MH17 crash victims at the grounds of the Bunga Raya complex at KL International Airport (KLIA) tomorrow from 7.30am.

RTM radio channels, namely NasionalFM, TRAXXfm, AiFm and MINNALfm will also give live coverage.

Malaysian Broadcasting Department Current Affairs News Division, in a statement yesterday, said the live coverage will involve the arrival ceremony for the victims' remains from Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

This will be followed by another ceremony to send the remains by air to the states outside Klang Valley and by road in

the Klang Valley vicinity for burial.

"RTM will strive to bring live coverage of the burial ceremony in Klang Valley and Kuching, Sarawak as well as several other locations involved with the burial ceremonies for Muslims and non-Muslims," said the statement.

It also said RTM will have a grandstand before the remains arrive with various slots, including a special report on the MH17 tragedy and Malaysian diplomatic efforts to enable all the remains of the Malaysian passengers and crew to be brought back for burial.

"RTM will also try to broadcast updates from time to time on the process to bring back the remains with a cross-over from Amsterdam," it added. - Bernama

**Cabinet discusses next phase of MH370 search**

BY **BERNARD CHEAH**  
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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein yesterday said the Cabinet has discussed the next phase of the search for MH370.

"This will involve us looking at the issue of cost sharing between Australia and Malaysia."

"It is important to note that the Cabinet appreciates Australia's contribution thus far in the search for MH370," he said to

reporters at the Defence Ministry.

He added that several ministers will be heading to Canberra next week.

"The delegation will attend a tripartite meeting between Malaysia, Australia and China," he said, adding that the Malaysian delegates will sign a memorandum of understanding between Malaysia and Australia in the search for MH370.

In Sydney, Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott yesterday said the search for MH370 will resume off the Western Australia coast within the next month.



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