

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN**  
**TARIKH: 9 MAC 2015 (ISNIN)**

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**KERATAN AKHABAR TEMPATAN  
BERITA HARIAN (NASIONAL) : MUKA SURAT 7  
TARIKH: 9 MAC 2015 (ISNIN)**

## **Jabatan Meteorologi tolak teori dilanda cuaca buruk**

**Kuala Lumpur:** Jabatan Meteorologi menolak kemungkinan pesawat MH370 berdepan situasi cuaca buruk seperti hujan lebat, awan tebal, angin kencang atau kilat pada 8 Mac tahun lalu.

Maklumat cuaca merangkumi lima muka surat dalam Laporan Siasatan Kemalangan MH370 yang dikeluarkan semalam, menggambarkan tiupan angin sehingga paras ketinggian 40,000 kaki (12,192 meter) pada hari kejadian, perlahan.

Selain itu, tiada kepulan awan kumulonimbus sepanjang laluan

MH370 dari Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur (KLIA) sehingga titik Igari, iaitu lokasi pesawat itu berpatah balik pada jam 1.22 pagi.

### **Tiada cas elektrik**

Sistem Pengesanan Kilat yang diselia Jabatan Meteorologi turut menunjukkan tiada cas elektrik berhampiran Igari dari jam 11 malam, sehari sebelum kejadian hingga 5.59 pagi, keesokan harinya.

Kawasan sekitar Lapangan Terbang Kuala Terengganu, Lapangan

Terbang Pulau Pinang, KLIA dan Lapangan Terbang Kota Bharu juga tidak mencatatkan sebarang fenomena cuaca luar biasa.

Menurut Laporan Aerodrome Meteorologi (METAR), halaju angin di keempat-empat ruang udara berkenaan sekitar 15 knot, manakala suhu pada ketinggian 35,000 kaki (10,668 meter) adalah negatif 40 darjah Celsius.

"Bagaimanapun, maklumat sistem pandu arah pesawat tidak dapat diberikan kerana siasatan belum lengkap," menurut laporan itu.



**High-tech:** Mohd Syarmy in discussion with his staff on how to interpret data gathered and compile them into reports for clients.

Story and photos  
by LIM WING HOOI

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## Mapping the way forward

Company banks on high-tech surveys for business

**O**N Oct 16, 1962, when then US President John F. Kennedy was informed that US surveillance aircraft had discovered Soviet missiles in Cuba, the world came its closest ever to nuclear doomsday.

Luckily, the Cuban Missile Crisis ended with both sides making a compromise.

On Oct 28, 1962, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev ordered the removal of the missiles while the Americans also secretly pledged to withdraw intermediate nuclear missiles from Turkey and not to invade Cuba.

The surveillance and tools available to interpret the data proved immensely useful for decision-making in the crisis.

While the world has stepped away from that kind of threat, the use of data gathered by aerial means is rising rapidly in the realm of business and decision-making.

One company offering services using aerial surveillance technologies is MySpatial Sdn Bhd. The company specialises in, among other things, helping plantation owners improve yields by understanding a site before developing a planting area.

Former Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) coursemates, Mohd Syarmy Shamsuddin and Mohd Azuar Yaakub, formed the company in Sept 2009 to provide geospatial information to customers.

Geospatial information involves the analysis of imagery, topography and other location-related datasets combined into complex layers.

These layers show information that visually depicts physical features and geographically referenced activities on earth, from land use to population density.

"When we were in the private sector, we realised that there was little proper planning prior to a plantation development. Mostly, it was done via guess work or *agak-agak*", Mohd Azuar told *Metrobiz*.

He said previously, plantation owners would invite contractors to survey a site planned for plantation development and the contractors would be asked to quote the development cost.

Now, using satellite images, MySpatial can provide a better reading of the terrain and provide a plan on how best to plant oil palms. To verify this, the company also goes to the selected areas to do slope reading.

"With our mapping accuracy, we are able to provide plantation owners a development plan, and they could use it to ask for a more accurate quotation of the development costs," he said.

He added that this led to fewer variation orders, giving plantation owners better control



**Programmable:** The UAV has to be programmed with the flight path, and sometimes needs to be adjusted on the site because of obstruction from both natural and man-made elements, such as wind speed, temperature and also buildings and lamp posts.



**Prepping:** Prior to taking off, the team simulates the flight path of the UAV to know if the coverage areas are sufficient to collect data, which would then be analysed to create a meaningful report for clients.

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