

22 found, only two confirmed 'MH370 debris'

KUALA LUMPUR: It could take up to two and a half months before the relevant authorities are able to confirm the origins of the four pieces of aircraft debris found recently.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said 22 pieces of debris allegedly from the ill-fated Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 have been found so far.

While six of them have been identified as being possibly from MH370, only two have been confirmed to be from the aircraft. "The outbound flap found in Tanzania took us 2.5 months to be confirmed that it is from MH370.

We only announced it when we were sure. Similarly identifying the four debris pieces would also take time. We will announce it when we' are sure," he told reporters after opening the 3 on 3 Basketball Competition at Wisma MCA, here, yesterday.

So far, 22 debris pieces suspected to be . from MH370 has been found in South Africa, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar. "The objects have been sent to Australia," he added Liow said the search for MH370 has already covered an area spanning 110,000sq km and will continue until 120,000sq km has been combed.

"We hope to complete the search by December this year," the minister said. He emphasised that it is of utmost importance that the wreckage of MH370 is found "We are looking in the right area according to the drift pattern.

The debris which was found in South Africa, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar proves this," said Liow. On the basketball tournament, Liow said it would be held nationwide from next year to foster unity among youths. About 250 teams participated in the competition this time.