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Airport

KLIA'S PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE MUST BE COMPLETED FIRST, SAYS DR LING

KUALA LUMPUR, May 11 (Bernama) -- Works on physical infrastructure facilities at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) will have to be given priority over any landscaping projects, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said today.

He said it would be difficult to have both the physical infrastructure and landscaping works carried out concurrently.

Trees that were replanted for landscaping might be affected if construction works were still going on, he told reporters after opening a symposium on Taoism organised by the MCA Religious Affairs Bureau here.

He was commentin on the statement by the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (Frim) that it has been denied full access to the site to carry out replanting works.

According to Frim, it has been promised access to the site by January this year but permission was postponed several times as the main contractor is unable to complete its work.

Frim's Director-General Datuk Dr Abdul Razak Mohamed Ali was also reported to have said that Frim only has 50 per cent access to the main terminal building and cannot access the satellite building site where landscaping works are supposed to be conducted.

The first phase of the KLIA is expected to be completed by this year. The KLIA will have an "Airport in the Forest" and "Forest in the Airport" effect with landscapes surrounding the terminal and satellite area.

Dr Ling said he would discuss the matter with KLIA Bhd during his visit to the site on May 19.

Meanwhile, commenting on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement on the local media treatment of the DAP, Dr Ling, who is also MCA president, said he supported the view that the local media had been sympathetic towards the DAP.

The local media had sensationalised the High Court case involving DAP deputy secretary-general Lim Guan Eng, he said.

"When one breaks the law blatantly and purposely like Guan Eng, he expects sympathy from the press and the press played right into his hands," Dr Ling said. -- BERNAMA

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