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Malaysia Airlines launches foundation

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MALAYSIA Airlines yesterday launched Yayasan MAS, a charitable and educational foundation, in conjunction with its 50th anniversary.

Launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the foundation will fund research on new emerging technologies and promoting awareness and appreciation of the fine arts.

It will also assist the less fortunate members of society and provide funds for research, development and educational activities in the pursuit of excellence.

"We believe that in order for Malaysians to succeed as aspired by our Prime Minister, we must be well equipped in the necessary skills, expertise and knowledge in order to compete," said Malaysia Airlines chairman Tan Sri Tajudin Ramli.

As the national airline, he said, Malaysia Airlines is conscious of its responsibility to provide an avenue for deserving Malaysians to pursue the highest levels of excellence.

"The establishment of Yayasan MAS reflects our commitment to contributing to the community as a caring and responsible corporate citizen."

The foundation will be managed by an appointed board of trustees.

To date, Tajudin and former Transport Ministry director-general Wan Awang Wan Yaacob have been appointed to manage and supervise the foundation.

As the initiator, Malaysia Airlines has committed RM20 million and hopes to raise more through fund-raising activities.

To date, RM1.6 million has been committed to the foundation from launch donors General Electric Engine Services Inc, Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, Rolls-Royce Commercial Aero Engines Ltd and Pratt & Whitney.

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