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AGONG SENDS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO MYANMAR'S HEAD OF STATE

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 3 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar has sent a congratulatory message to Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of Myanmar Gen Tan Shwe on the occasion of his country's Independence Day.

In his message released by Wisma Putra, the King expressed confidence that the close and friendly relations between Malaysia and Myanmar would be further strengthened and enhanced in their common endeavour for prosperity, peace and stability for the mutual benefit of the peoples.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in a similar message to Gen Tan Shwe, said the significance of the day would inspire the people of Myanmar to strive even harder towards building a dynamic and prosperous country.

"I look forward to continue working closely with Your Excellency in realising our common objective of strengthening further the relations between Malaysia and Myanmar as well as to work together for continued peace and stability in our region," he said.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, in his message to his counterpart U Ohn Gyaw, said he was encouraged to note that relations between both countries were progressing satisfactorily in all areas of cooperation. -- BERNAMA

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