

27 JUN 1998  
KLIA-Tan Sri  
KLIAB BOSS AWARDED TAN SRI

KUALA LUMPUR, June 27 (Bernama) -- Datuk Jamilus Hussein, the managing director of the KL International Airport Berhad (KLIAB), has been awarded the title "Tan Sri" for his leadership of the management team which successfully built Malaysia's new world-class international airport that was officially opened tonight.

The award was announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad shortly before ending his speech at a spectacular opening ceremony of the RM9 billion airport at Sepang, 50 km south of here.

The airport, officially named KL International Airport (KLIA), was opened by Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar.

Dr Mahathir congratulated the Malaysian engineers, contractors, construction managers, architects and others for their contribution in building the airport.

And congratulating Jamilus, the prime minister described him as "certainly the man most responsible for the management of the construction of this very complex project."

"I would like to congratulate the Malaysian engineers, contractors, construction managers and architects and others for their contribution towards the building of this airport," he said.

Dr Mahathir said he could not in his speech name the others because the list was too long although their contributions were equally important.

"I have pleasure in announcing that for his work, Datuk Jamilus has been awarded the Panglima Setia Mahkota (PSM) carrying the title 'Tan Sri' by Sri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong in conjunction with His Majesty's 76th birthday recently," said Dr Mahathir.

This is believed to be the first time that a Malaysian has been awarded a "Tan Sri", one of the country's highest titles, outside of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong's birthday honours list which was released on June 6.

Then, Jamilus was awarded a "Panglima Jasa Negara" which carries the title "Datuk".

Jamilus, 54, a civil engineer by training was seconded to KLIAB from the Public Works Department (JKR) five years ago during the planning stage of the KLIA, the largest ever construction project undertaken in Malaysia.

Dr Mahathir also mentioned the minister of finance, minister of transport, minister of works and KLIAB executive chairman Tan Sri Clifford Herbert as among those whose contributions were crucial in making the airport a success.

-- BERNAMA

AU ABG