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DR MAHATHIR DENIES M'SIAN AUTHORITIES VIDEO-TAPED SUSPECTED HIJACKER

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Nov 6 (Bernama) -- The Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today denied that Malaysian authorities had video-taped the movement of one of the suspects linked to the Sept 11 terror attacks on the United States.

"As far as we know we don't have such a tape," he told reporters at the close of the Seventh Asean Leaders' Summit here.

He was asked about a foreign wire report from Washington quoting unnamed sources as saying that Malaysian security authorities videotaped the man in January last year in Kuala Lumpur.

"Only now I am hearing this from you," Dr Mahathir said.

The report said that West Asian intelligence agents have questioned a suspected Al-Qaeda operative who was observed in Malaysia in January last year meeting suspected hijacker Khalid Almihdhar and other supporters of Osama bin Laden.

The US named Osama as the mastermind behind the Sept 11 attacks on New York and Washington in which terrorists used hijacked jetliners to ram into the twin towers of the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon.

-- BERNAMA

DC RYN