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Renaming Putrajaya `not proper'

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - It will be an act of sheer disrespect to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad if Putrajaya is renamed, said Kepong MCA public service centre bureau head Yee Poh Ping.

He said the name Putrajaya was chosen and endorsed by Dr Mahathir himself in honour of the first Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra.

"More so, by just adding his (Dr Mahathir's) name to Putrajaya is certainly not the proper way to honour a great leader like him," he said.

Yesterday, there was a suggestion by Senator Datuk Mansor Md Jaafar in the Dewan Negara that Putrajaya be renamed Bandaraya Mahathir Putrajaya to honour the Prime Minister.

He said Dr Mahathir had contributed much to the country and the people needed to remember him.

DAP chairman Lim Kit Siang, meanwhile, said Mansor was a classic example of Dr Mahathir's favourite lament `Melayu Mudah Lupa', as he (Mansor) had forgotten Bapa Malaysia and that Putrajaya was named in memory of Tunku's service to the country.

Lim said an immediate clarification by Dr Mahathir himself, or his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, to the `preposterous' proposal should be made.