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Hamdan-KLIA

HAMDAN WANTS KLIA RENAMED "TUN DR MAHATHIR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT"

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 1 (Bernama) -- President of the Federation of Malaysian Consumer Associations (Fomca) Professor Dr Hamdan Adnan wants the KL International Airport (KLIA) to be renamed "Tun Dr Mahathir International Airport" to honour the former Prime Minister.

He said as a leader who had lifted Malaysia's name on to the world stage "it was only appropriate that Dr Mahathir be given an everlasting honour."

Hamdan said Dr Mahathir's dynamic and visionary leadership had succeeded in projecting Malaysia's name which was known and emulated by other countries.

This was in marked contrast to the era of the 70s and early 80s when only a small section of the international community knew about Malaysia and its existence, he said.

"When I studied in the United States, when we mention Malaysia, the people there thought Malaysia was in China or India. Now everyone knows Malaysia and Dr Mahathir," he told Bernama.

Hamdan said Dr Mahathir built the airport which was now the pride of the nation, even though during the initial stage of its construction he faced much criticism.

He said the practice of naming airports after the country's leaders was not something new and was carried out in other countries including developed ones.

For instance the airport in New York was named after the late President Kennedy, Manila Airport was named after the late Ninoy Aquino and the airport in Jakarta after the late Soekarno and Hatta.

Hamdan said Dr Mahathir stepped down at a time when everyone held him in high esteem and this showed that he is a great leader.

"Dr Mahathir has retired as PM, it is only fitting we honour him," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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