

IN APPRECIATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

# PENANG TO NAME ROAD AFTER PAK LAH

**Mara will also seek approval to rename MRSM Ulul Albab Kepala Batas**

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**P**ENANG will rename Lebuhraya Bandar Cassia to Jalan Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi in honour of the late former prime minister.

The state flag will also be flown at half mast on Friday as a mark of respect to Abdullah.

Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow proposed these measures to the state executive council to show its appreciation to Abdullah's contributions to Penang's development.

"May all the contributions and services he rendered in developing the nation and the state remain forever etched in the hearts of all Malaysians, especially the people of Penang.

"Flags will be flown at half-mast at all government and local authority premises across the state. Non-governmental premises are also encouraged to do the same as a sign of respect for Tun," said Chow.

He said Abdullah was a proud son of Penang, born in Bayan Lepas, and one of his greatest "gifts" to Penangites was the Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Bridge, which he announced during his presentation of the Ninth



Penang will rename Lebuhraya Bandar Cassia to Jalan Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi. NSTP PIC BY DANIAL SAAD

Malaysia Plan in Parliament in 2003.

He said the "Second Penang Bridge" significantly boosted economic growth between Batu Maung on the island and Bandar Cassia in Batu Kawan, especially as a new industrial zone.

He said Abdullah named Bandar Cassia on Aug 24, 2004, and obtained approval from the National Physical Planning Council through the Bandar Cassia Master Plan on Oct 26, 2004.

"The state government intends to continue the legacy of the late Tun by renaming Lebuhraya Bandar Cassia to Jalan Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

"In addition to the Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Bridge and Bandar Cassia, Penang also saw many other developments under the administration of the late Tun, including the first major expansion of the Penang International Airport with an allocation of RM1 billion, the development of Penang Sentral worth RM2.7 billion, the Butterworth Outer Ring Road and the Northern Corridor Economic Region."

Abdullah died at the National

Heart Institute on Monday and was laid to rest at the Heroes' Mausoleum the next day.

Meanwhile, Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) chairman Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki will seek approval to rename MRSM Ulul Albab Kepala Batas to MRSM Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Speaking to the *New Straits Times*, he said he would propose this to Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, who oversees Mara.

Asyraf said the proposal was not only to honour Abdullah's contributions as prime minister, but also to acknowledge his pioneering role in advancing the Ulul Albab educational agenda.

"It was under Pak Lah's leadership that the Ulul Albab initiative was introduced — a vision to nurture well-rounded human capital proficient in science and technology, as well as in Quranic knowledge, aligned with the principles of Islam Hadhari.

"That is why Pak Lah is remembered as the 'Father of Human Capital Development'," he added.