

**DAP slams Malaysia Airlines for screening Tanda Putera during anniversary celebration**  
**Malaysian Insider**  
**Oct 14 , 2013**

Does Malaysia Airlines think the special screening of Tanda Putera to commemorate the airlines' 41st anniversary celebrations will help to inspire its staff and turn around its huge losses, asked DAP.

Its secretary-general Lim Guan Eng (pic), in posing the question, said the screening of Tanda Putera insulted all Malaysia Airlines customers who would be offended by the lies in the movie, which are not only factually incorrect but racially offensive and derogatory as well.

"What motivation did Malaysia Airlines think its staff would get from the screening of this hugely unpopular and discredited film, especially when it is already billions of ringgit in the red?" Lim asked in a statement today.

He said the announcement by Malaysia Airlines managing director Ahmad Jauhari Yahya for the special screening of Tanda Putera was insulting. Even the movie's producers have admitted that they used creative licence to make the movie.

"The makers of Tanda Putera admitted in a Facebook posting that they made a mistake accusing DAP adviser Lim Kit Siang of urinating on a flagpole. They apologised to Kit Siang unreservedly for the embarrassment caused by the lies," Lim said.

"Even Utusan Malaysia apologised to me and Kit Siang for making similar claims, which turned out to be lies. So I ask Malaysia Airlines, how can Tanda Putera act as a motivational boost for its staff and spur them to greater heights when it is all about lies?" Lim said.

He said it was not surprising that CIMB Research rated Malaysia Airlines shares as "underperform" when the airline relied on a movie based on lies to try and deceive everyone that it is profitable. Lim said it was not that easy to pull the wool over the people's eyes.

"The public can see for themselves the poor performance of the national airline when they compare it with AirAsia Berhad. In spite of the huge sums of public funds pumped into Malaysia Airlines, the airline is still operating at a loss," Lim said.

On the other hand, he said, AirAsia has consistently outperformed Malaysia Airlines with cheaper fares and is now larger than the national airline in terms of market capitalisation, aeroplane fleet and share prices.

"The taxpayers have a right to ask Putrajaya where is the value for their money which has been spent on Malaysia Airlines. Since 1998, approximately RM19 billion has been pumped into Malaysia Airlines to keep it solvent, including guaranteeing RM12.3 billion borrowed by Malaysia Airlines."

Lim said instead of relying on Tanda Putera to treat its staff, Malaysia Airlines should focus on getting back into the black, and learn to rely on itself instead of getting more grants from Putrajaya to stay afloat. - October 14, 2013.

Hakcipta © 2013 The Malaysian Insider

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/dap-slams-malaysia-airlines-for-screening-tanda-putera-during-anniversary-c>