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MAHATHIR  
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MUAR, MAY 22 (BERNAMA) -- DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED HOPES TEACHERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WILL BE ABLE TO PLAY A MORE EFFECTIVE ROLE IN ENSURING THAT STUDENT MORALITY IS IN LINE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF RELIGION, AND THE COUNTRY.

HE SAYS THAT DRUG ABUSE IS AFFECTING THE COMMUNITY ESPECIALLY STUDENTS, PLUNGING MANY OF THEM INTO A MISERABLE EXISTENCE.

IN A SOUVENIR BOOK IN CONJUNCTION WITH TEACHERS' DAY IN JOHORE, DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO EDUCATION MINISTER, SAYS THIS SITUATION WILL NOT HAVE BECOME WHAT IT IS IF EFFECTIVE MORAL EDUCATION HAD BEEN PROVIDED FOR THE STUDENTS.

HE EMPHASISES THAT THE TASK OF TEACHERS NOW IS TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF DRUG ABUSE AND, ULTIMATELY, ERADICATE THEM COMPLETELY.

+WE DO NOT WISH TO PRODUCE A GENERATION OF DRUG ADDICTS BECAUSE THIS WILL ENABLE MISCHIEVOUS ELEMENTS TO INFILTRATE SOCIETY AND DESTROY THE NATION.+ -- BERNAMA 1823/YF