

# I have a dream

**KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.** — A nation where there is no absolute poverty, where everybody is well-fed, well-clothed and enjoy long, healthy lives, where all our children receive a good education; a land that will set an example and earn the respect of all the other countries in the world.

This is Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad's hope and ambition for Malaysia. In a rare departure from his pragmatic style, the Prime Minister said:

"It is not just a dream. It is entirely possible but our task

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will be a formidable one.

"We will have to further develop our infrastructure and penetrate the more remote areas of the country with roads and transport facilities.

"We will need to expand our power-generating capacity and extend distribution networks. We will need new water supply systems. We will need to establish new towns and communities and equip them with houses, hospitals, schools and other social amenities."

Speaking at the opening of the seminar on national productivity here today, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said he based his faith on the progress Malaysia has made since independence.

He said under his predecessors, the country has a stable democratic government, a sound economy and the basis for an efficient national infrastructure.

"We are well-endowed with natural resources, we are spared the horrors of some of the natural disasters that afflict some of our close neighbours," he said.

He said Malaysia has been able to register an average annual growth rate of eight per cent due to its natural resources and a strong economic base.

Malaysia is also fortunate, he added, as the people, whatever their race, placed great importance on high spiritual and religious values.