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Ling-challenges

KUALA LUMPUR, March 1, (Bernama) -- The government has to start examining ways and means of achieving the target of turning Malaysia into a developed country by the year 2020, MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said today.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's action plan to make Malaysia a developed nation within 30 years, which he unveiled yesterday, +is something which all Malaysians can identify with+.

Datuk Seri Dr Ling, who is Transport Minister, told Bernama that the nine challenges which the prime minister spelt out in his plan entitled +Malaysia: The Way Forward+ not only transcended but were beyond race, religion, geography and parochialism.

The challenges include the establishment of a united Malaysian nation made up of one Malaysian race and a liberal, tolerant and caring society.

Other challenges also include ensuring an economically just society with a fully competitive, dynamic, robust and resilient economy.

Datuk Seri Dr Ling said: +It is a vision which all Malaysians can identify with and we should make every effort to build a national commitment around this vision+. -- more

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He said the challenges which the prime minister had outlined +touched the hearts of all Malaysians and a sum total of their dream for a Malaysian nation+.

Datuk Seri Dr Ling said although many concepts and ideas had been put forward on nation-building, they had never been articulated in the manner which the prime minister had done.

The MCA, he added, would make the document one of the central documents for discussions at all its seminars and forums.

But what should now be done was for the government to examine ways and means to go about making Malaysia a fully developed nation.

If this could be achieved, all the petty quarrels and issues which had preoccupied various groups in the country would become insignificant and irrelevant, he added. -- Bernama

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