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Mahathir-fees

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MELAKA, Sept 4 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the public would only have to pay a nominal sum if government departments and agencies imposed fees for services now being provided free.

The Prime Minister gave the assurance that the fees would not be a burden to them.

+The fees will be nominal and I do not believe that the public cannot afford them.+ he told a press conference after chairing the weekly Cabinet meeting here.

He was elaborating on his statement yesterday that all ministries, agencies and government departments should find their own sources of revenue, including the charging of fees for their services which were now given free to the public.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the people would no doubt be unhappy with the move but they must pay if they wanted something good.

+We always want everything free but we want the best. We want good roads but do not want to pay toll.+ he added.

He said the public should not take for granted that such things provided by the government were free as the government had to spend money to do so. -- more

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Mahathir-fees 2 (last) Melaka

In Jitra, Kedah Menteri Besar, Tan Sri Haji Osman Aroff, said the state government was identifying the types of services that could bring additional revenue to the state.

By charging fees for those services, the government would be able to raise revenue for minor projects, he added.

However, for major projects the state would still have to depend on allocations from the Federal government, he said.

In Kangar, Perlis Menteri Besar Dr Abdul Hamid Pawanteh said the state government would charge fees for various services, including the issuing of application forms from January next year.

Among the forms that would be sold to the public were those issued by the Kangar Municipal Council and land application forms.

The move was approved by the State Executive Council at its meeting today following the suggestion by the Prime Minister, he added. -- Bernama

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