

CNS2206

R GE 29-04 00184 ED889

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Mahathir - moral

PROGRESS WILL NOT LAST WITHOUT HIGH MORAL AND ETHICS, PM

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PETALING JAYA, April 29 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said it was important to place emphasis on moral and ethics to ensure that the country could sustain the progress achieved so far.

The Prime Minister said this should be done both at school and university levels.

"The higher the level of education pursued, the more emphasis should be given to ethics and moral," he said when opening the Sunway College and Sunway Lagoon Water Park here.

He said instilling high ethical and moral values in the people should be given priority because the progress achieved would only last if the people appreciated and practised such values.

"It is no use to have a high per capita income and excellent knowledge if the society cannot appreciate high moral and ethical values," he said.

"Without appreciating such values, no society can sustain its progress, no matter how progressive it is." --more

JO OS

♥29/04/16-23MST

CNS2232

R GE 29-04 00149 ED890

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Mahathir-moral 2 Petaling Jaya

Dr Mahathir said education alone without moral and ethics could lead a person to use his knowledge to commit crime.

"No one is more dangerous than an educated criminal," he said, adding that at a time when the rate of white collar crimes was increasing it was necessary to instil in the students ethical and moral values.

He said the belief that moral and ethical values could be inherited from parents and society was baseless.

Dr Mahathir said the government did not want the get-rich-quick culture to spread among students. It should be replaced by the one for long term benefit which took into account the interest of society than individuals.

The Prime Minister said only with proper culture, education and knowledge could bring progress to individuals and society. --more

JO OS

▼29/04/16-42MST

CNS2251

R GE 29-04 00187 ED891

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Mahathir-moral 3 Petaling Jaya

"The progress of society benefits the individuals but that of individuals need not necessarily benefit the society...and the individuals themselves may not be safe," he said.

On the establishment of private institutions, Dr Mahathir said they should not only attract local students but also foreigners in line with the government's objective of making Malaysia the centre of higher education in Southeast Asia.

He was confident that Malaysia was capable of achieving this as it had the necessary expertise in term of preparing facilities for higher education.

Malaysia would be able to offer lower cost of education as the cost of living in this country was lower than that of the other countries in the region.

However, Dr Mahathir reminded the private institutions to adhere to the national education policy and assist the government in bridging the education gap among the various communities.

He said they should hold courses on relevant knowledge that could help in national development with emphasis on science, technology and management expertise.--more

JO OS

▼29/04/16-58MST

CNS2298

R GE 29-04 00144 ED892

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Mahathir-moral 4 Petaling Jaya

The Prime Minister also wants private institutions to concentrate on "hands-on" training and adopt a more innovative attitude in pioneering new methods of instruction.

He said the twinning of local institutions with foreign universities could help save foreign exchange, especially for government sponsored students.

Dr Mahathir said at present the government was spending a lot of money sending students overseas.

However, some of the students failed to mix with the local people to the extent that they could not even master the language they were supposed to learn while others picked up foreign cultures not suitable for this country.

Private institutions could also help the government prepare more places for higher education as the government was not able to provide enough places for students.--more

JO OS

▼29/04/17-29MST

CNS2306

R GE 29-04 00122 ED894

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Corrected repetition

Mahathir-moral 5 (last) Petaling Jaya

Dr Mahathir said the government actually wanted to raise the salaries of important academic staff but feared that other groups would also demand pay rise.

He said the government could not afford to raise the salaries of all civil servants at the moment.

Chairman of Sunway College Datuk Musa Hitam, in his speech, said the college would place emphasis on the standard of education to help achieve the objectives of Vision 2020.

Present at the ceremony were Education Minister Datuk Amar Dr Sulaiman Daud and Tun Suhaila Tan Sri Mohd Noah, wife of former Prime Minister Tun Hussein Onn.--Bernama

JO OS

▼29/04/17-32MST