

▼13/06/18-31MST

CNS6930

U GE 13-06 00213 EA278

aae tbe

Mahathir-Economy

MALAYSIA CAN CATCH UP WITH THE WEST, SAYS MAHATHIR

bm

MELAKA, June 13 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is confident Malaysia can compete with the developed countries and even catch up with them given the country's good economic performance.

He said this was possible because of the sluggish performance of the developed countries where workers wanted high salaries but did little work.

"The ways of the developed countries cannot be accepted because if we want high salaries we must work hard. We want to ensure that although salaries are not high we are still able to buy goods with little pay," he said when officially opening the RM3 million Maritime Museum here.

In order to achieve that, the government launched the campaign to combat inflation and if it was successful the country would become a big producer, he added.

"We must strive because we do not wish to be left behind like before," he said.

Present at the ceremony were Datuk Seri Datu Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali; Melaka Chief Minister Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik, State Executive Councillors and heads of government departments. -- more

ARA LDB

▼13/06/17-56MST

U GE 13-06 00164 EA279

aae tbe

Mahathir-Economy 2 Melaka

Dr Mahathir said the country's economic growth last year was eight per cent and this year it was expected to be between eight and nine per cent compared with that in developed countries of between two and three per cent or even only one per cent.

He advised the people to look back to the past and use it as a lesson to move into the future.

He said: "A museum is not merely a place for entertainment; it is a place to learn and remember our roots as the best mariners and sailors in the world at one time.

"Remembering the past does not mean returning to ancient times but wanting to progress further in the field of high technology industries like the aircraft industry."

Dr Mahathir said the colonisation of the country had opened the world beyond to its people. -- more

ARA LDB

▼13/06/18-02MST

U GE 13-06 00087 EA280

aae tbe

Mahathir-Economy 3 (last) Melaka

The federal government welcomed the Melaka government's efforts to set up 101 museums in the state as it would make it well-known as a "museum state," he added.

Abdul Rahim said the federal government had agreed to set up a national foundation to salvage and conserve historical treasures.

The state government would request a bigger allocation from the foundation for such work in Melaka, he added. -- Bernama

ARA LDB