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Mahathir-Finishing

GIVE ATTENTION TO THE FINISHING TOUCH

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 13 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad wants workers at all levels to give priority to the finishing touch and come up with products of excellence.

Shoddy work should give way to excellent finishing, he said.

"Malaysian workers should ensure there is high quality finishing and be convinced that we can not only become a successful nation but our earnings will also increase because people will be willing to pay more for high quality work," he said after handing over the Anugerah Tangan Emas Perdana Menteri at the Technical Teachers Training College in Cheras here.

Malaysian workers did not at all realise the importance of quality finishing in any piece of work for they assume that how excellent also was a product it would not fetch a higher price from that which had been set.

In view of this they worked according to the stipulated rates and were concerned only in merely completing the job, he said.

The Prime Minister said Malaysian workers should emulate workers of the boat building industry overseas such as in Europe, America, Australia and New Zealand.

He said they always gave top priority to quality finishing as reflected in the boat's surface which shone like glass after being polished with lacquer.

"In Malaysia we are not concerned over this. As long as we complete it, OK. To us a little bit of tear here and there is OK and this attitude will turn us into a nation incapable of competing with others," he said.

"To compete with other nations, we have to polish until it shone like glass when we are working with wood," he said.

Dr Mahathir said this attitude of giving priority to quality finishing should be applied in all fields as only the final touch made a difference between two pieces of work.

Speaking to reporters later, the Prime Minister hoped Malaysian workers would take pride in quality work and not just work within the stipulated hours or on the basis of their remuneration.

"Here they don't take pride in their work. How much we are paid and so much is our work. This is our mentality."

"We have no pride in the end result. Quality is lacking as we are not concerned about our work and our products," he said.

Pusat Giat MARA received the Anugerah Tangan Emas Perdana Menteri after winning one gold medal, three silver and four bronze in various youth categories in the Seventh Malaysian Skills Championship.

Dr Mahathir also launched the new design of the Anugerah Tangan Emas Perdana Menteri created by the Pusat Seni dan Daya Cipta of Institut Teknologi MARA, Shah Alam. -- BERNAMA

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