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Mahathir-City

TOWN, CITY CITIZENS MUST BE MORE DISCIPLINED, SAYS MAHATHIR

KUCHING, March 15 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today citizens living in towns or cities must be more disciplined as no city or town authority could keep them clean 24 hours a day.

They must learn to be clean themselves because, at best, the authorities could only provide scavenging services, he said when officially opening the RM55 million Kuching City South Council building here.

He added: "We must learn to take care of our waste and not just chuck everything out of the window or car.

"When you have the money it is easy to build a nice city but looking after it would be difficult."

Stressing the need for discipline, Dr Mahathir said the people had less discipline than they should when they live in a big community.

He added: "The better people normally live in the small villages or even alone but as the community progresses they begin to live in bigger communities.

Living in big communities, there was a need to have order in their lives, he said, adding that to live in a more progressive way one needs to accept the sacrifices required when living in a bigger community.

"That is why we paint our city, beautify and clean them," he said.

Dr Mahathir said land had to be sacrificed in order to landscape them and to convert them into gardens even though they are so valuable.

Also, the people would like to see better and broader roads, planted with trees so that they could walk in the shade, he added.

He suggested that Malaysia emulate the French who were very good at city planning and plant six rows of trees instead of only four.

Dr Mahathir congratulated the Sarawak government and the City Hall for the magnificent building which would be the pride of Kuching city south residents.

He said building design today should suit the rapid development in the country without sticking out like a sore thumb.

Citing building designs, especially those in Kuala Lumpur, he said their facade matched the outstanding buildings in Europe but inside they were like prisons.

Local architects designed beautiful buildings but forget about little things like where to place the air-conditioning equipment, thus leading to haphazard installation which made the building ugly, he added.

He urged architects to apply their talent and skills to designing building and house for cities. -- BERNAMA

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