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Be serious in fighting corruption, says Dr Mahathir

SANDAKAN, Sat. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight urged elected representatives and civil servants to demonstrate their seriousness in fighting corruption, saying that the nation's success should be their ultimate goal.

Calling on them to discard self-interest when rendering their services to the people and the nation, Dr Mahathir said a country full of corrupt leaders would never succeed.

Speaking at a dinner with Sandakan community leaders, he said the tasks of elected representatives and civil servants were not for those in search of wealth and prosperity.

"The reward should not take the form of money but job satisfaction, to see our country progress and envied by the outside world.

"Those who are elected by the people have responsibilities towards the people.

"All of us are paid wages. They may not be much, but if we think that the wages are not enough, then we should look for other jobs.

"If we stand for election and have secured a place in the Government, we should not complain."

Dr Mahathir said as Member of Parliament and Prime Minister his monthly salary was RM16,000 which was much less than those who worked under him, including the chairman of Petronas.

"But how many plates of mee can you take? At RM16,000, I will choke myself to death if I were to use all of it on food."

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