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Mahathir-Stability

NEW GENERATION MUST CONTINUE POLITICAL STABILITY, SAYS DR M

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 19 (Bernama) -- The challenge for the new generation is to continue maintaining the country's political stability and economic growth, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He, however, cautioned that the task would not be as easy as in the early years.

" We already see complacency and a desire to sit back and enjoy life. Loafing, bohsia and drug abuse will undermine the resilience and the determination of the young Malaysians," he said in his keynote address on the challenges of the new generation at Universiti Malaya here.

Dr Mahathir also voiced his concern over the deterioration in work ethics.

As in a developed country, the demand would be for more pay and less work, he said.

" Incredibly the same trend towards decadence as seen in Europe will also be seen in Malaysia," he said at the function organised by the Universiti Malaya Alumni Association as part of its lecture series.

Apart from international deterioration, there would also be outside pressures, he said.

" As affluent Malaysians reject certain kind of work, more foreigners will imigrate into the country. At first, they will only come to work. But soon they will settle down and demand rights including citizenship," he said.

Malaysians would want to deny them those rights but the rest of the world would apply pressure, he said.

" We have seen recently how rogue speculators had destroyed our economy to enrich themselves. This will happen again and again.

" If we look like attaining Vision 2020, our politics and economy will be undermined. Malaysians will also be used for this purpose," he said.

Dr Mahathir said more political pressure would be applied on Malaysia with western concepts of democracy in which the individual was supreme.

He also predicted that most youths would be subverted and only a few would resist.

" Repeated attempts will be made to restore the Malaysian spirit, the spirit of Malaysia Boleh.

" There will be protracted struggles between the patriots and the worldly youth. Who will win? That will be the question as well as the challenge," he added. -- BERNAMA

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