

Become a  
global  
player, . 48

PM tells  
815 : 7-98  
hospital

KUALA LUMPUR: Hospital Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKMH), UKM's teaching hospital in Cheras, should strive to be a global player in developing new medical technologies and expanding research in tropical diseases, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

He said it was time for UKMH to prove its mettle in international medicine while providing good services at reasonable costs.

Dr Mahathir said it would be a major boost for the country if patients from all over the world came to UKMH for specialised treatment.

"With its impressive list of specialists and sophisticated equipment, UKMH has great potential to compete with other renowned teaching hospitals in the world," he said when opening the almost RM400mil state-of-the-art teaching hospital yesterday.

Dr Mahathir said UKMH must ensure that it provided quality and value-added services affordable to the man in the street.

He quipped that he was grateful that his visit to the hospital was not as a patient as was the case two months ago when he was warded for a minor surgery to remove a blood clot at his ankle.

Also present at the function were his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah, Acting Education Minister Datuk Amar Dr Sulaiman Daud, Health Minister Datuk Chua Jui Meng, Education Ministry secretary-general Datuk Dr Johari Mat, UKM vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Anuwar Ah, and UKMH director Prof Datuk Khalid Abdul Kadir.

place locally and ...  
world especially escalating medical costs.

In Europe, he said, medical expenditure was the second highest expenditure in annual budgets.

Dr Mahathir later toured the hospital. He was also given a demonstration on its use of telemedicine.