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PM: Be thankful for peace and harmony

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday called on Malaysians to resolve any problems and misunderstandings amicably through cooperative means.

"People should be thankful ... in a peaceful country in Malaysia, we live in harmony.

"If we are not peaceful and there are riots or fights all the time, we will not be able to earn a living," he said when flagging off 1,500 participants of the Duta Run in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Public transport drivers in the Klang Valley and their families participated in the 2.8km run, which was organised by the Entrepreneur Development Ministry in conjunction with the Commonwealth Games. It started from and ended at Hentian Duta.

Dr Mahathir said those who work harder will earn more but because of the inequality in the incomes of the different races in the country, the Government has to give attention to the Bumiputeras so that they too can participate in all fields.

"In this way, they can make not very much less than or sometimes the same as or more than the other races," he added.

Such a move, the Prime Minister said, will reduce jealousy among the races and help make Malaysia a peaceful and safe country.

Dr Mahathir called on the public transport sector to be courteous to visitors during the Commonwealth Games which begins on Friday.

"Malaysians should show the world that they are capable of organising international events," he said.

"Malaysians should cooperate with one another and provide good service to participants and visitors during their stay here. We want them to have sweet memories so that they will come back again," he added.

About 6,000 athletes and officials from 70 Commonwealth countries are expected to participate in the Games from September 11 to 21.

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