

Land issues can be easily resolved, says PM

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KUALA LUMPUR, Mon: The question of land, which is under the jurisdiction of state governments, should be easily resolved, Prime Minister **Datuk Seri** Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

States have always been reminded to give more opportunity to agriculture entrepreneurs to develop the land but he said they may have "other different agenda".

He admitted that land issue is indeed **complicated** and this problem is not only faced by the agricultural sector but others as well.

"Actually land issues must be settled easily and decision should be made quickly," he said, adding that he will continue to remind *mentris besar* and chief ministers to give better cooperation.

Mahathir was replying to a question from a participant of a seminar on investment opportunities in the agricul-

tural sector here today.

Earlier, he delivered a keynote address on **The New Vision On Agriculture**, interspersing his speech also with various techniques and guidance in growing plants.

On the herbal industry, Mahathir admitted that Malaysia is not doing enough to produce herbs to be made into medicinal products.

He said the federal government has requested states to give sufficient land to produce herbs and spices that are used daily in Malay food.

"It is timely to ensure that each town has its own supply of herbs used in daily food, otherwise Malay food will not have the right ingredients."

To a request for a special fund for the agricultural sector, he said RM36 billion is being provided by the government under the Finance Ministry for various activities but they are not fully utilised.