

17/07/2000

Be prepared to lead, younger generation told

KUCHING, Sun. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the younger generation should not be frustrated when their views went unheeded by present leaders because the Government would be handed down to them one day.

Speaking at a youth rally at Stadium Perpaduan in Petra Jaya near here today, he said the younger generation would be able to carry out their own ideas when they took over the leadership of the country.

"The present generation will not be in the Government forever and when the younger generation take over the country's leadership, they must ensure that the country continues to develop."

However, he said criticism being levelled at leaders by the younger generation was expected and it was unavoidable.

In this respect, Dr Mahathir advised youths to focus their attention on equipping themselves with knowledge and skills to ensure that they would be prepared to lead the country.

"It is the responsibility of the younger generation to ensure that Vision 2020 is realised because when it was planned, it was with you in mind," he said.

He also reminded them that they must uphold the rule of law because without it there would be chaos in the country.

Earlier, Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud, in his speech, described Dr Mahathir as a "modern day rebel" for openly expressing his opinion about what was best for the country.

He said Dr Mahathir was courageous in asserting new ideas which others had not thought of earlier.

The rally was attended by more than 3,000 youths.

(END)