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PTD must be neutral in making decisions, says PM

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today said the challenges faced by the Administrative and Diplomatic Service (PTD) required much responsibility, dedication, ability and consideration to make decisions without being influenced by emotions.

The service should, therefore, have the necessary knowledge and training to do so as members of the public now had greater aspirations and awareness of their rights, Dr Mahathir said.

He said this in a message delivered by Defence Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak at the PTD Officers Alumni Association dinner here. Dr Mahathir could not attend the function as he was indisposed.

Dr Mahathir said the main principle of public service was neutrality and loyalty to the Government.

This does not mean blind loyalty, but an obligation to assist the Government in formulating policies and providing expert advice.

Dr Mahathir said when a decision was made officers were obliged to accept and implement it.

He said the changes and transformation in the country were due to various factors, but among the most important was the strength and quality of public administration and the diplomatic corps.

The Prime Minister called on the association to assist in strengthening ties between the public and private sectors as some members were now helming corporate bodies.

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