

Malays need to change their mindset, says Mahathir

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SHAH ALAM, Sar. Unless the Malays change their attitude, they will become second class citizens if they still harp on getting incentives and subsidies from the government.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad voiced his fear of this happening in 2020 if the Malays are not awakened from their reverie.

Hoping this will not be the scenario in the future, Mahathir, who is also Umno president, said Umno will focus on the issue by identifying the core problems, especially on poverty among Malays.

He said the Malays are still considered the poorest group in the country although Malaysia achieved independence 43 years ago.

"They should concentrate on their weaknesses instead and work against it because if they don't, they will still be second class citizens in their own country.

"The Malays must now

focus on what they can do for themselves and not what the government can do for them," he said after opening the 10th Selangor Umno Convention here today.

Mahathir also said Umno conventions should focus their attention towards the issue instead of outlining resolutions and putting pressure on the government.

"Of course we'll take action on whatever reasonable resolutions that have been reached but they have to change their mindset on finding ways to change the lives of other Malays," he said.

Mahathir said Umno has a long way to go in its struggle for the Malays, and that the Malays have only improved a little.

"We'll focus on it but in the meantime they must strip off whatever flaws they have and develop whatever values that will bring changes or achievements in the future," he added.