

Be prepared for challenges, PM tells young entrepreneurs

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PETALING JAYA: Young entrepreneurs must be prepared to face the challenges they will encounter during the nation's transition from developing to developed country status, Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

He said that Vision 2020 could only be achieved by creating more young entrepreneurs ready to take over from the successful ones of today.

"We place much hope on young entrepreneurs to achieve Vision 2020 because older people will not be around to savour it," he said

at the launch of the Learn From Malaysian Entrepreneurs campaign dinner.

"I will not be around but I warn you that I'll be flying up there watching over you," Dr Mahathir said in jest.

Organised by Young Entrepreneurs Association of Malaysia (PUMM), the dinner was also attended by Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Nazri Abdul Aziz, Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob and PUMM founder and honorary president Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew.

Dr Mahathir reminded en-

trepreneurs to contribute to society to ensure greater returns for their businesses.

"The richer the society, the richer you will be. You have to contribute to the creation of wealth and help society prosper," he said.

He said since the country was multi-racial, the Chinese, who were more experienced in business, would have to assist other groups still new in the field.

"A government without a good business community will be bankrupt," he said, adding that they were interdependent.