

PM: Be wary of those who consider themselves experts

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KUALA LUMPUR, Tues: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has advised Malaysians to be wary of certain factions who seem to consider themselves experts and who override the decisions of elected leaders.

He said there will also be people who feel that only certain quarters have the ability to make or override the decisions of senators in the Dewan Negara.

Speaking at a Senators Club dinner here last night,

Mahathir said Malaysians have always taken a moderate approach in whatever they do and that the country has never experienced much chaos or unrest.

He said there will come a time when certain people will begin to feel bored with the current moderate conditions and will try to make changes.

Mahathir said that currently, the senate acts as a filter to the decisions of the Dewan Rakyat and senators have the opportunity to be

critical of the decisions.

"The government will, however, not always have a majority in the Dewan Negara, as a day will come when it will be made up of more opposition members. The government will then face problems," he said.

"Developed countries can afford to have decisions debated and deliberated upon for a long time.

"However, in a developing country like Malaysia, fast decisions and actions are necessary to ensure that

positive changes can be made quickly."

Mahathir also called on senators to volunteer themselves to help the government overcome certain social problems.

He cited as an example the poor academic performance of certain Malay students.

"Senators can play a part by reaching out and explaining the importance of the roles of students and parents in the development of the country," he said.