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Ini dah baca dah...'

Faridul Anwar Farinordin

DOES Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad read YouthQuake? Does he know what we are all about?

What do you think?

We've always thought that, if we wanted to move mountains with our articles, it's important for the country's top leader to at least know of our existence.

What's the point of us highlighting issues affecting youths when the one who calls the shots does not pick us up, much less read us, right?

Thankfully, so many times we've been told, by many sources, that Dr Mahathir reads us. Still, we could never be 100 per cent sure, as we've not had the opportunity to ask him ourselves.

But now we know, and it's great news.

We recently met him at Putrajaya, and found that he and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Ali do rumble with YouthQuake.

We were there for the prize-giving ceremony of the YouthQuake/Coca-Cola essay-writing competition, which we co-organised with Coca-Cola Far East Ltd (Malaysia branch).

During the event, Dr Mahathir presented the cash prizes of RM5,000 each to our two winners: Johann Ghazaly, 15, from St John's Institution, Kuala Lumpur, and 16-year-old Pong Yu Ming from SMK Taman Desa, KL.

The PM and wife then said "yes" to our request for an exclusive shoot with us.

"Oh... YouthQuake, ya?" asked Dr Siti Hasmah with a warm, knowing smile as she took her place with us, beside her husband.

Just before the cameras started clicking, we asked if Dr Mahathir read us. He said: "Baca jugak... (I read YouthQuake too)."

We then showed him a copy of our Aug 3 "Dear Prime Minister" issue, where we had addressed an open letter to him on issues affecting teenager.

"Oh! Yang ni baca dah (Oh! I've read this one)," he said with a smile. We had wanted to spend a little more time with him, but as we all know, everyone wants a little of his time too.

However, at least we know now, and have confirmed what many others have told us about the PM reading us. Thank you, Datuk Seri and Datin Seri.

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