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Mahathir-8MP (Acceptance)

MALAYSIANS WILL ACCEPT DEVELOPMENT PLAN IF NOT INSTIGATED, SAYS PM

KUALA LUMPUR, April 23 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that Malaysians generally will accept the government's long-term development plan if they are not instigated by certain quarters.

He said that all development plans tabled by the government like the outline perspective plans and the Malaysia plans were for the benefit of the people.

"If the people are not instigated, I believe the people will accept. These are all for the benefit of the people but there'll be instigations, there'll be people spreading lies to influence the people not to accept ...it's the same old story," he told reporters after tabling the Eighth Malaysia Plan (8MP) in the Dewan Rakyat.

He was asked on the acceptance and involvement of the people in the development programmes initiated by the government.

Dr Mahathir said that such groups were always inclined to obstruct and incite the people to raise objections every time the government initiated beneficial programmes.

"They have this inclination no matter what we do. But generally the people in Malaysia are very cooperative unless they are instigated," he said.

Asked how the government would deal with such matters, Dr Mahathir said that the government had to spend time and energy to provide clarifications to the people to counter the lies spread regarding the development plans.

"It's because of such instigations that many things have to be shelved...we cannot proceed," he said.

-- BERNAMA

HS MS RM