

14 JULY 2001

Mahathir-Youth

MALAYSIAN YOUTHS NEED TO BE BOLD IN EXPERIMENTING, SAYS MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, July 14 (Bernama) -- Malaysian youths should be bold in experimenting with useful things even if their endeavour seemed primitive, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He said if young people began experimenting, they would not only be able to learn more about a certain invention but also become more knowledgeable in what they have experimented with.

"Take for example the kit plane (experimental aircraft). If our youths did not experiment with them (the planes), we would not have learnt anything about aviation but since we have youths who experimented with these planes, we understand aviation better," he said.

He said this at the flag-off of the Asean Voyage of Friendship expedition to all other nine Asean member states to handover the official invitation for the 21st Kuala Lumpur SEA Games to be held here in September.

Dr Mahathir said experimental kit planes may look primitive to a lot of people but it must be remembered that the Wright brothers (the pioneers of aviation) started with a skeletal plane.

"Look where the aviation industry is today, we are in the supersonic age where the sound barrier has been beaten by man-made aircraft," he added.

He said if the youths of today were keen on experimenting with kit planes, the country one day stood the chance of not only producing aircrafts which were sophisticated but which could fly faster than sound.

He gave the example of how Malaysia's first car manufacturer, Proton, pioneered the nation's automotive industry.

"Today Proton cars are on par with other automobiles in the market which clearly shows that Malaysia has the capability to leapfrog into any area," he added.

Dr Mahathir said the same would apply to experimenting with kit planes where Malaysia could match up to the giants of the aviation industry to produce aircrafts of its own.

-- BERNAMA

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