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Mahathir-Police

POLICE MUST BE PROFESSIONAL IRRESPECTIVE OF POLITICAL VIEWS - DR M

SHAH ALAM, April 16 (Bernama) -- Police administrators should be professional in carrying out their duties although they may have differing political views, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

"We have to inculcate professionalism in the Royal Malaysia Police, the body responsible for maintaining peace and stability in the country," said the Prime Minister.

As long as there was efficient management and professionalism in the police force, the country would remain peaceful and could see more rapid development, he said when opening a conference of police commissioners, chief police officers, police commanders and police commandants at a hotel here.

Present were Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Norian Mai, state police chiefs and other senior police officers.

Dr Mahathir said the government would be able to administer the country well if the police, armed forces and the civil service adopted a professional attitude and abided by all policies.

"Although they have different roles, they have no choice when performing their duties other than to adhere to the directives of the government picked by the people," he said.

Dr Mahathir urged police personnel to upgrade their knowledge and educational level to face the challenges of dealing with new types of crimes in this new millennium.

"We no longer can depend on policemen with low (academic) qualifications," he said.

More people with high educational qualifications must be recruited as police, he said.

Police personnel should be encouraged to acquire doctorates in fields like forensic science, legal, business and information technology, he added.

-- BERNAMA

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