

# PM: Give back some to society

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KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today called on the corporate and business community to "return" some of their profits to the needy ones in society.

Dr Mahathir said that apart from being a social obligation, the corporate and business community must remember the fact that they are able to trade and do business because of society.

"Without society you cannot possibly be doing any business or derive profits from your dealings, as such it is only right if you contribute to their well-being," Dr Mahathir said at the SP Setia Founda-

tion's charity dinner tonight.

"I am very happy that here in Malaysia people are very generous. Very seldom do we find people unwilling to donate for a worthy cause," he said.

Malaysians, he added, should always spare a thought for the less fortunate in the community because they needed all kinds of help especially for the education of their children.

The charity dinner, attended by 1,500 people, raised RM3.93 million for the foundation, with RM1 million coming from SP Setia Berhad Group.

Dr Mahathir received RM300,000 on behalf of Bakti, the charitable body of wives of Ministers and Deputy Ministers while MIC president and Works Minister Datuk Seri S.

Samy Vellu accepted a RM100,000 contribution for Maju Institute of Educational Development.

SP Setia Foundation was set up two years ago. It runs an adoption programme for underprivileged primary school children.

Nearly 1,400 pupils from 64 schools have been adopted under the programme.

At the dinner, 250 employees of SP Setia put up a 45-minute musical performance on Dr Mahathir's role in championing the Malaysian cause.

The six-segment "Pekan Rabu to Putrajaya" musical went down well with the guests.

Towards the end of the show, an overjoyed Dr Mahathir went on stage where he joined the performers.