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Mahathir-generosity

MAHATHIR COMMENDS GENEROSITY OF MALAYSIANS

KUALA LUMPUR, May 29 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight expressed satisfaction over the willingness and generosity of the Malaysian society in contributing for worthy causes.

The Prime Minister said he was happy with their attitude as only with the true generosity of a well-off society that the less fortunate could stand a chance to have a better living.

"I am very happy indeed that here in Malaysia people are very generous. Very seldom we find people unwilling to donate for a worthy cause," he said at a charity dinner organised by S.P. Setia Foundation, here.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysians 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.

"If they are very poor, they cannot study, they cannot climb the social ladder, or become any better. But if they are helped, then of course they can study and can qualify themselves in order to work and earn a decent living," he said.

Dr Mahathir said businesses could well afford to be generous for they were making money from the society.

The charity dinner which was attended by 1,500 people raised RM3.93 million for the foundation.

At the function, 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.

S.P. Setia Foundation was established two years ago and its core activity is an adoption programme involving underprivileged primary school children nationwide.

Nearly 1,400 pupils from 64 schools have been adopted under the programme, each receiving assistance for their schooling.

-- BERNAMA

NM MAM ABG