

06 MAR 2002  
Pledge-Ministers  
MINISTERS SIGN GOOD CONDUCT PLEDGE

PUTRAJAYA, March 6 (Bernama) -- All cabinet ministers and members of the federal administration comprising deputy ministers, parliamentary secretaries and political secretaries today signed the Pledge of Good Conduct in front of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

They signed the documents at a ceremony at the Prime Minister's Department here.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi led the ministers and members of the administration in handing the documents to be signed and endorsed by Dr Mahathir.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, who represented the cabinet ministers, later symbolically handed the Pledge of Good Conduct to Dr Mahathir.

This was followed by Deputy Information Minister Datuk Khalid Yunus who represented deputy ministers in handing the documents to Dr Mahathir while Parliamentary Secretary in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Khamsiyah Yeop represented the parliamentary secretaries and Political Secretary to the Prime Minister Datuk Johari Baharom represented the political secretaries.

This morning, Dr Mahathir Mohamad signed the Pledge of Good Conduct in front of Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail at Istana Negara.

In his brief speech at the ceremony, Dr Mahathir said the Pledge of Good Conduct was not an oath because they had taken their oaths when they first assumed office.

On the contrary, he said, it was a declaration of intent to carry one's duties to the best of one's ability.

"Although we have carried out our duties well there is still room for improvement," said the Prime Minister.

Dr Mahathir said he had visited many countries and found that the Malaysian government administration was the best because it adopted a hands-on approach and members of the administration were directly involved in implementing decisions and not merely delegating them to others for implementation.

He recalled Malaysia's success in overcoming the financial crisis in 1998 where the measures taken by the government in setting up a "crisis management" team and reviewing each approach and measure taken daily had succeeded in resolving the problem.

The Prime Minister hoped that such attitude would continue to be adopted and members of the administration would give their full commitment to the country's style of administration.

-- BERNAMA  
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