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Mahathir-Weakness

OVERCOME WEAKNESS INSTEAD OF FINDING FAULT WITH OTHERS, SAYS DR M

SHAH ALAM, March 12 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has expressed his concern about the tendency of Malaysians to find fault with others without realising their own weaknesses and working to improve themselves.

The prime minister voiced his concern at the 2002 National Education Premier Convention here today, where he also held a dialogue with the participants.

Speaking to reporters after the closed-door dialogue, Deputy Education Minister Datuk Abdul Aziz Shamsuddin said Dr Mahathir was of the view that one factor causing the weakness of the race was that they did not try hard enough to develop themselves.

"(This is) because he is confident that the Malays in particular can be as progressive as others if we work hard," he said.

Abdul Aziz said Dr Mahathir stressed the need for people to be focused and determined in whatever they do.

"He feels that we are not far behind others. It is only that we are not spending time to undertake something seriously.

"Given the facilities available, especially those provided by the government, we can become a developed race in the world if we are determined in our efforts," he said.

Abdul Aziz said Dr Mahathir also touched on the question of producing good citizens and the issue of teachers' involvement in politics.

The four-day convention, themed "Education Leadership Excellence the Basis of Achieving the Vision", is aimed at, among other things, assessing the performance of the national education system and its future trend.

It is also to draw up strategies to strengthen the teaching profession and ensure the relevance of education in the development of the race and country.

-- BERNAMA
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