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Dr M: We try hard to stop music pirates

SHAH ALAM, Fri. - The Government is doing its best to overcome the problem of music piracy which is causing hardship to local recording artistes, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said here today.

He said the Government had taken various steps, including increasing the manpower at the Home Ministry, to tackle the problem.

"We have confiscated thousands of pirated copies, destroyed them and have even charged the culprits. But the problem persists," he said.

He conceded that it was not an easy problem to overcome.

"It is not that we do not want to solve the problem. We are trying our best. We have banned the sale of video compact discs at pasar malam and unauthorised places.

"We have given stern warnings to those involved in the illegal business. We have confiscated millions of ringgit worth of equipment, but the problem is still there."

Dr Mahathir said the Government could come up with rules and regulations but the officers had to carry out the enforcement.

"I cannot go and carry out their duties for them. Maybe there are some dishonest officers among them ... I don't know," he said after launching the Selangor Barisan Nasional Convention at the Dewan Raja Muda Musa at the Selangor Youth and Cultural Complex here today.

About 5,000 participants from all BN component parties took part in the inaugural one-day convention.

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