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Mahathir-Scientist

MALAYSIANS ENCOURAGED TO LEARN VARIOUS SCIENCE SUBJECTS

KUALA LUMPUR, July 4 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight students in the country are encouraged to learn various science subjects so that Malaysia can produce scientists in various fields.

He said Malaysia needed many scientists in the various fields to help the development of the country in the rapidly changing world.

"If Malaysia does not have enough scientists we cannot explore new findings," he said.

"I do hope that you learn science and come back here to help us with research work," he said in his speech at the annual dinner of the Imperial College Alumni Association Malaysia, here.

Dr Mahathir also said that Malaysian scientists needed to cooperate with their foreign counterparts to undertake research to find the cure for new diseases.

The Prime Minister also said that close cooperation and research works between local and foreign scientists would ensure the success of the bio-valley project.

The bio-valley launched by Dr Mahathir on May 20 will centralise nationwide biotechnology research as well as facilitate and encourage the commercialisation of products and discoveries.

"If we succeed, a lot of people will come here and make a lot of money," said Dr Mahathir.

He also said that Malaysia had much flora and fauna which could be developed into medicine for the local and world markets.

"Maybe we can change the character of Tongkat Ali and produce something like Viagra," he said.

-- BERNAMA

SSA RV AO