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PEMADAM SUPPORTS PM ON WAYS TO RID COUNTRY OF DRUG SCOURGE

KUALA LUMPUR, May 20 (Bernama) -- The National Association For The Prevention of Drug Abuse (Pemadam) fully supports Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement that drug abuse, especially among the younger generation, can only be eradicated through the inculcation of good values and education.

Pemadam vice-president Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye said today that as the largest non-governmental organisation involved in the fight against drug abuse, Pemadam had since its very inception been campaigning relentlessly to educate Malaysians, especially the youth, about the dangers of drug abuse and why they must keep away from the drug scourge.

"At our recent annual general meeting held in Penang (May 18), Pemadam resolved to reaffirm its commitment to help the government and the nation to work towards making Malaysia drug free by the year 2015," he said in a statement here.

He was commenting on a newspaper report today which quoted the prime minister and Pemadam patron as saying that the drug manace, which had constantly remained as the nation's primary threat, could not possibly be wiped out with severe punishment alone, but the inculcation of good values is the only way to prevent children from being hooked on drugs.

Lee said: "We cannot fight the drug scourge with legislation alone no matter how stringent and punitive it can be. Other than effective law enforcement, we need parental guidance and education to teach their children to hate drugs and not be involved in drug abuse."

He said the nation needed to launch a "values for the nation" programme where all sectors of the society ,including parents, could inculcate noble values among the younger generation so that they could differentiate between the good and the bad, and be imbued with self-esteem and confidence to make the right decisions in life.

-- BERNAMA

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