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Mahathir-Challenges

RISE TO THE OCCASION TO FACE CHALLENGES, DR M TELLS M'SIANS

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 30 (Bernama) -- On the eve of his retirement as Prime Minister for 22 years, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad again called on every Malaysian to rise to the occasion to face the challenges as they emerge and shoulder the responsibilities as citizens of this country.

"If we do this, there is no reason why we cannot continue to be successful and make this country a model for the world to emulate Malaysia Boleh," he said when addressing the Dewan Rakyat to table the Mid-Term Review of the Eighth Malaysia Plan.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysians must be prepared for any challenge that came their way.

The government, on its part, would provide the leadership and the requisite resources, he said.

"It (the government) will conduct extensive consultations in formulating strategies to face new challenges as, or even before, they arise," he said.

"The people, on their part, must remain united and fully supportive of all measures the government undertakes," he said.

Dr Mahathir said it had been his pleasant experience during his tenure as Prime Minister to find all Malaysians rallying together in the face of a crisis.

He said this unique Malaysian characteristic must be maintained at all costs.

"It (the Malaysian characteristic) should not be sacrificed in the interests of expediency of parochial self-interest or political opportunism," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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