

15 JAN 2003

Mahathir-Officers

GOV'T SERVANTS REMINDED NOT TO BE INFLUENCED BY UNFOUNDED SENTIMENTS

KOTA BAHARU, Jan 15 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight reminded government servants not to be influenced by unfounded sentiments to the extent that they do not give their cooperation to the government.

The Prime Minister said that allowing themselves to be influenced by unfounded sentiments such as anger and hatred against the government would only be to their detriment and bring destruction to the country.

"We should not burn the mosquito net out of anger at the mosquitoes. The mosquito net in this context is our own country, if we destroy the country out of anger at certain things, we will become the victim," he said when addressing Federal Government officers at a dinner here.

Dr Mahathir, who was accompanied by his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamad Ali, is on a two-day working visit to the state beginning today.

He said administrators and the government must forge closer cooperation in implementing programmes for national development to ensure that Malaysia attained the developed nation status by the year 2020.

He said government servants had been giving good cooperation to the government all this while.

The biggest success for the government and its employees would be when Malaysia eventually attained the developed nation status, he said.

He was confident the goal could be achieved in view of the fact that government employees were well trained as well as their willingness to implement government policies.

"I believe the success or failure of any administration depends on the integrity and sincerity of officers in discharging their duties," he said.

The Prime Minister said Malaysia had achieved extraordinary success because no other developing country had achieved the development that this country had.

--BERNAMA

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