

20 JUL 2004

PM CALLS ON STUDENTS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COUNTRY

By: Salmy Hashim

WASHINGTON, July 20 (Bernama) -- Malaysian students have a role to fulfil to achieve the objectives of Vision 2020 and beyond, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said in his meeting with more than 200 students at the Malaysian Embassy here.

He said that it is a long climb from one point to the next in achieving that goal, and only the strong and the capable can succeed.

He urged students to make that "special contribution" to make Malaysia a great nation that they could be proud of.

The Prime Minister urged those who have completed their studies and gained the knowledge and skills needed to return home to contribute to nation-building.

"You are the ones who will provide the future leadership in politics, government, the private sector or to become the Prime Minister," he said

Abdullah said that he has inherited the successful efforts of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and in the future he would pass the baton to the next generation of leaders.

There are roughly 7,000 Malaysian students in the United States.

-- BERNAMA

SH AFY RM