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Mahathir: Globalised world not democratic

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - The globalised world as visualised today is not a democratic world, says former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"No one represents the poor and no one cares for the poor," he said in a speech to the Harvard Club on "Mastering the Realities of Globalisation - The Way Forward to 2020".

But the provision of infrastructure, education and health care will enrich poor countries and open new opportunities for them.

New roads and railways will enable them to ship out their goods at better prices, while their imports will cost them less.

The poor countries nevertheless lack resources, he noted, and the funds for infrastructure could be raised from an international tax for the development of poor countries.

Dr Mahathir said countries already had agreements on double taxation and extending this concept to a worldwide international taxation would not be too difficult.

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