

Dr M upset over flaws in Putrajaya

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PUTRAJAYA: The man who created the federal administrative capital here is dismayed by the flaws that have emerged in the city.

Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said while there appeared to be an absence of desire to complete and maintain Putrajaya, some areas were turning for the worse.

Claiming responsibility for some of the recent negative developments in projects that were carried out during his premiership, he pointed out areas that could do with some attention from the authorities.

After his keynote address at the "Forum on Media and National Development" here yesterday, Dr Mahathir said many decorative lamps which were a unique identity of Putrajaya had gone missing.

Recently, Putrajaya was in the news for a landslide followed by a leaking water pipe that shut down the Immigration Department for a day, causing hardship to more than 3,000 clients.

In addition, many people expressed frustration at the lack of parking space at the government agencies.

On a claim he had made in a speech last month that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi owned a RM60 million mansion in Perth, Dr Mahathir said he made the statement based on a rumour.

"You know when you are carried away in a speech like that, you are not too careful.

"So I said it. I'm sorry I said something that was wrong and I stand corrected. The house belongs to someone else."

On another matter, Dr Mahathir said Formula One-supremo Bernie Ecclestone had gone overboard in saying that the Sepang International Circuit was "shabby".

However, he said the circuit, which was also his brainchild, needed improvements as it was the greatest advertisement for Malaysia.

Dr Mahathir said his former

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