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## PRIME NEWS



**Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad** says the opposition keeps insulting the nation's democratic system

### 'Time to get tough with opposition'

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has urged the government to no longer be soft towards the opposition, who continue to insult the nation's democratic system.

"We need to be a bit tough and not give them face," he said after attending a dinner in conjunction with the Langkawi International Dialogue (LID) 2013 here yesterday.

"Initially, they wanted to recognise the people's choice, but now they want to topple the government. They reject the democratic system and opt for street demonstrations."

Six countries — Namibia, Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria, Lesotho and Botswana — attended LID 2013, which began on Sunday.

In his speech entitled "Transforming a Nation: The Malaysian Experience", Dr Mahathir said proper implementation and coordination by the government benefited the people and the nation's economy.

Initiatives undertaken by the Economic Planning Unit and the Implementation Coordination Unit had enhanced Malaysia's competitiveness.

"During my time, I instructed all ministers to go to the ground to make sure all the plans were implemented accordingly."

Government strategies include providing incentives to local companies and tax-holiday to investors to encourage more foreign direct investment (FDI). **Bernama**