

Storm victims urged to be resilient

Dr M: Be appreciative of whatever aid the govt provides during hard times

LANGKAWI: Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has urged island residents hit by the tail end of Typhoon Lekima to be resilient and appreciate whatever aid is provided by the government.

Even though the assistance might not be much, it nevertheless would help alleviate their burden, he said.

"We have faced a disaster where strong winds lashed Langkawi leaving many homes damaged, but Alhamdulillah (by the grace of Allah) everyone received assistance.

"Maybe it might not be enough but aid is also forthcoming from the government through elected representatives," Dr Mahathir, who is Langkawi MP, said at a gathering of Padang Matsirat residents in Kedawang here to celebrate Aidiladha.

He said Malaysians were fortunate compared to some countries in the aftermath of disasters.

"I remember when Nepal was hit by a terrible earthquake and many people lost their homes ... maybe

"
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Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad

because their government couldn't afford it and that is why Nepal is still in a post-earthquake situation," he said.

Dr Mahathir said in Malaysia, the people always received relief whenever a disaster struck, no matter how big or small it was.

"Although the help will never be enough, we should feel at least slightly indebted because in other countries, the kind of help that we see here is not available," he said.

Meanwhile, in his emotional speech Dr Mahathir rallied the call: "Allah Maha Besar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar Walillahilham (Allah is Great).

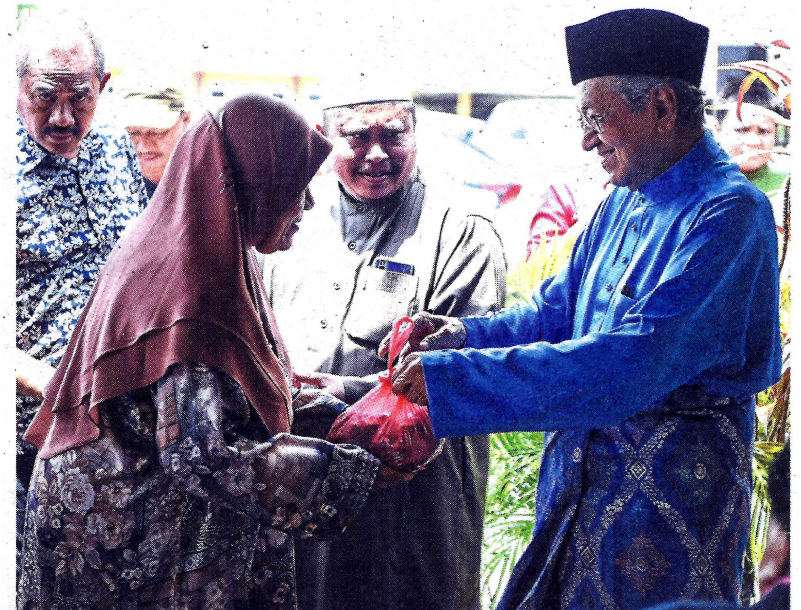
"This is what we chant during Eid celebrations to express our gratitude to Allah."

The Prime Minister said Allah had promised people who were always grateful with multiple blessings.

Therefore, he reminded that although the relief for those affected by the storm disaster might not be enough, it was still something to be thankful for.

The tail end of Typhoon Lekima ripped through the northern states of Peninsular Malaysia on Friday, claiming one life, damaging thousands of homes and uprooting hundreds of trees.

Following this, accompanied by his wife Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohammad Ali, Dr Mahathir drove a Lexus SUV to inspect the destruction caused by the storm along Pantai Tengah here. — Bernama



Sharing is caring: Dr M handing out sacrificial meat to the needy after attending the Majlis Ramah Mesra Penduduk Kedawang at Masjid Ar-Rahman Kedawang in Langkawi. — Bernama