

PM urged not to provoke others

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Wee: Govt should avoid any dispute and focus on building up M'sian economy

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PETALING JAYA: MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Wee Ka Siong has urged the Prime Minister to stop picking fights with other countries.

"It cannot be denied that Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad is a leader with plenty of experience.

"But at the same time, he has a reputation for openly fighting with

other powerful countries.

"During his previous stint as Prime Minister, he might have been seen as a speaker for other Third World countries but the world today is different from the one 20 years ago.

"If Tun Dr Mahathir continues to say whatever he pleases, it will just offend other powerful countries and would very much affect the country," he said in a Facebook post yesterday.

Last week, Dr Mahathir had said during a press conference at the Kuala Lumpur Summit 2019 that he was sorry to see India, a secular state, acting to deprive some Muslims of citizenship via the country's recently approved Citizenship Amendment Act.

The Indian government had since claimed that his remarks were "factually inaccurate" with its External Affairs Ministry summoning Malaysia's acting head

of mission.

Dr Wee pointed out that a previous comment regarding the Kashmir conflict had also irked India, which led to the drop in palm oil exports.

"Respected Prime Minister, the uncertainty of the global economy will affect Malaysia's economy.

"The government should avoid any dispute with other powerful countries and instead focus on building up the local economy.

"It's only by maintaining strong and positive diplomatic relations with other countries that we can create more business opportunities for our country," he said.

Dr Wee also warned that the youths of today would have to pay the price for Dr Mahathir's action if he continued to offend other countries.

"What use is it to save ourselves when we have lost friends all over the world?" he said.