

Anti-graft plan launched

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PM: Govt and rakyat must work together to curb wrongdoings

PUTRAJAYA: Fighting corruption is the responsibility of everyone, from the Prime Minister himself to those who should be teaching children to stay away from graft.

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad says mere pledges and noble intentions are not enough to curb corruption as the “war” against it needs strategies and laws that make it difficult for corrupt practices to occur.

There must also be measures to quickly detect those involved in corruption and ensure that these people pay dearly and severely for their wrongdoings, said the Prime Minister.

“If there are those who say that the government is too focused on the wrongdoings of the previous administration, the National Anti-Corruption Plan (NACP) unveiled today is what we have to fight the same wrongdoings in the future.

“Those who have to face the plan are members of the current administration and those who will serve in the future.

“We hope that with the implementation of the NACP over the next five years, we will be able to curb the culture of corruption in the country,” Dr Mahathir said at the launch of the plan yesterday.

The NACP aims to make Malaysia corruption-free by 2023. It has 22 strategies and 115 initiatives, and focuses on six main sectors: politics, public procurement, law enforcement, public sector administration, legal and judiciary, and corporate governance.

It replaces the National Integrity Plan, which was launched in 2004.

Also present at the event were



Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, other Cabinet members, senior government officials, Governance, Integrity and Anti-Corruption Centre director-general Tan Sri Abu Kassim Mohamed and Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) chief commissioner Datuk Seri Mohd Shukri Abdull.

Political party leaders from both sides of the divide each received a copy of the NACP from the Prime Minister.

Among them were PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang, Umno deputy president Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, PKR president Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and

Parti Warisan Sabah president Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal.

Aware that the fight against corruption could not be won within a short time, Dr Mahathir said what was important was to have policies in place as the foundation for a culture and system based on good governance and integrity.

“But these initiatives cannot be carried out by me alone, or by the MACC or other authorities.

“It has to be the responsibility of all, from the Prime Minister to kindergarten teachers who should sow the seeds of hatred against corruption among our children.

“These values will also be more meaningful and effective if we,

as Cabinet ministers, chief ministers, mentris besar and those whom the rakyat have given the responsibility to lead and serve, show exemplary character through our commitment to integrity and honesty and through our refusal to abuse our power or position,” he said.

Dr Mahathir also hoped the civil service, particularly heads of departments, would ensure that the NACP was implemented effectively and that it achieved all targets.

Team effort: Dr Mahathir presenting a copy of the NACP guidebook to Mohamad during the launch at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre. Looking on are (from left) Mohd Shukri, Abu Kassim and Chief Secretary to the Government Datuk Seri Ismail Bakar.

Watch the video
thestartv.com

