

Mahathir wants Malaysia to be known for integrity, not corruption

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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 29 (Bernama) -- The National Anti-Corruption Plan (NACP) is developed to achieve the aspiration of Malaysia to be known for its integrity and not corruption, said Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said before the 14th General Election on May 9, 2018, most Malaysians were disgusted with the rampant corruption in the country, involving the government, which was internationally described as kleptocracy.

"They expressed their disgust through the ballot box, leading to the change of government, removing a party/coalition which had ruled the nation since independence.

"It is therefore imperative for the new government to always be reminded that the single most burning issue which was capable of bringing down a 61-year old government was its corrupt practice," he said in the statement of vision in the National Anti-Corruption Plan 2019-2023 that was launched today.

Dr Mahathir said leaders of the country must show their commitment against corruption at the outset and followed down the line by various sectors, organisations and every family unit in the community at large.

He said leadership by example is an effective way to achieve a state where every citizen does not condone corrupt practices.

The prime minister said the new government under the Pakatan Harapan (PH) coalition will uphold the rule of law, apply the principles of transparency, accountability, and integrity, as well as good governance, when exercising authority or power.

"These will be the foundation in our effort to get rid of corruption and shape a corrupt-free ecosystem for the future generation," he added.



Hence, Dr Mahathir, said NACP was created after considering perspectives from stakeholders to enable the government to align strategies towards achieving its vision.

He said the government will address corruption by promoting transparency, accountability and integrity in all government's administration as outlined in the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable

and inclusive institutions at all levels.

The prime minister called on all department heads, be it public or private sector, public interest entities, state-owned enterprises and non-governmental organisations, to be together in effort to fight corruption.

"It must be embedded in the mind of all Malaysians that it is critical for us to combat corruption if we want to achieve developed nation status," said Dr Mahathir.

He said the new government under PH is committed to combat corruption.

"Since it took over the nation's governance, the government has undertaken measures and introduced policies that are unique and innovative.

"The government will ensure this effort is implemented to protect the rights of the people, to stop leakages of public funds, to strengthen national security and to spur economic growth," he added.

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