



**SPECIAL HONOUR:** Dr Mahathir receiving the letter of appointment from Universiti Teknologi Petronas Pro-Chancellor Tan Sri Dr Azizan Zainul Abidin in Tronoh, Perak, yesterday. Looking on is Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

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## Malaysians not far behind, says Mahathir

**TRONOH:** Malaysians are not far behind in the race to acquire knowledge, said former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said the evolution in the information technology had made it possible for Malaysians to improve their knowledge and compete with people from other countries.

He said the country had reached an era where education was borderless and that everyone must grab the opportunity to acquire knowledge.

"We are lucky for not opting the easy way out by allowing other people to tap our oil reserves while we enjoy the revenue from sales.

"We took the right move by

acquiring knowledge and technology from experts in the mineral industry from other countries and at the same time ensured that our interests in oil are protected," he said in his speech at the special convocation ceremony to present him as the new Chancellor of Universiti Teknologi Petronas here yesterday.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysians should continue in their quest for education.

During the ceremony, Dr Mahathir was also conferred an honorary doctorate in engineering and technology in recognition of his contribution.

He is the university's second chancellor following the death of Tun Mohar Raja Badiozaman.