



Muhyiddin (third left) receives a memento from Musa (fourth right), while Masidi (second left), Sukarti (third right), Dr Mohd Harun (second right) and others look on

RIGHT: Muhyiddin (centre) flanked by Musa (right), Dr Mohd Harun (left) and other guests arriving at the UMS Chancellor Hall



Demos unnecessary, DPM tells students

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KOTA KINABALU: Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin told varsity students yesterday there was no need to stage demonstrations in Malaysia where people live in peace and harmony.

Speaking at a dialogue session with students of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM), he said people in other countries hold demonstrations because they were starving and lived in strife.

Undergraduates have a re-

sponsibility to build on the success story of Malaysia, he said and that the students should be proud of the progress achieved in the country since it gained independence 50 years ago.

"We want to see a future that is even better than what we have now, so all of you have a responsibility to shoulder as you will be the future leaders of this country," said Muhyiddin yesterday at the dialogue session at the Chancellor Hall of UMS here.

He said Malaysians should count themselves as lucky to be able to live in a peaceful and harmonious country.

"There is no need for us to

stir up trouble like staging demonstrations because in other countries the people demonstrate because they are starving. In Malaysia, those participating in demonstrations are healthy which shows that we have enough food unlike in Africa where a lot of children die of hunger," he said.

"Malaysia is like heaven and we have to protect this. Students should appreciate what they have in this country and also play a role and take responsibility in protecting the peace in this country.

"We must respect each other and refrain from stirring up trouble that can cause chaos. In

the context of government, we have Barisan Nasional which brings all the races together and looks for ways to resolve our problems," said Muhyiddin.

He pointed out that in market capitalisation, Malaysia recorded RM1.46 trillion in business investments in the Bursa Malaysia on January 4, 2013 which is the highest in its history so far.

Malaysia also received several international recognitions and creates a conducive atmosphere for investors to create more job opportunities for the people.

In 2010, Malaysia was ranked 23rd in the world as a

friendly country to do business and in 2012 it went up to the 12th position.

Independent reports such as the FDI Confidence Index stated that in terms of confidence Malaysia jumped from 21 in the table in 2010 to the 10th spot in 2012. In terms of competitiveness, Malaysia was ranked 4th in 2012 from 16th in 2011.

"We are just a small country with only 28 million people and three million foreign workers but we are ahead of Australia, United Kingdom, South Korea, Japan and France," said the Deputy Prime Minister.

"Malaysia is among the best in the world and we should be

proud to be Malaysian because we have succeeded. So don't complain about the government too much. Support the government," he urged.

Even as a shopping destination, he said Kuala Lumpur was ranked 4th in the world and number two in Asia Pacific.

"We beat Paris and Hong Kong because our prices are lower due to the ringgit currency whereas others trade in pound sterling and euros," he said.

In terms of tourism, he said Malaysia is among the best in the world and Sabah is one of the best.

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