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## **BTN served nation well: Dr M**

by **Charles Ramendran**

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the Biro Tatanegara (BTN) or National Civics Bureau has served the country well and any decision to revamp its curriculum is the right of the government.

He said BTN has helped instil patriotism and nationalism among Malaysians and taught them to lead the ideal way of life.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Nazri Abdul Aziz had announced on Tuesday that BTN's programmes will be revamped in line with the 1Malaysia concept.

The Selangor government, however, had decided to boycott the programmes by barring staff and students under them from attending courses by BTN after it was deemed racist and detrimental to a multi-racial and multi-religious community.

Mahathir was speaking to reporters after launching the 21st anniversary of the World Aids Day at Wangsa Walk shopping mall yesterday.

On the government's decision to implement the Goods and Services Tax (GST), Mahathir said an in-depth study must be carried out to ensure the move does not burden the public.

Earlier, in his speech, he said it was the duty of every Malaysian to work towards containing AIDS as the disease can afflict any individual who is ignorant of its dangers.

Also present were Malaysian AIDS Foundation chairman Prof Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman and Kuala Lumpur AIDS Support Services Society adviser Dr K. C. Lee.