

Three ways to beat the economic doldrums

BY 28 SEP 1985

DATUK Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad yesterday outlined three broad strategies — reduced borrowings, prudent spending and increased productivity — as Malaysia's cure for the economic slowdown.

He said Malaysia is a nation that depended on trade with foreign countries for the growth and stability of the national economy.

He added that in a situation of deteriorating world economy, Malaysia could not but feel the effects of this economic recession.

Practise

"What is important is not the reason for the economic recession, what is important is our attitude in facing this problem," he told 1,450 Umno delegates when delivering his presidential address at the 39th Umno General Assembly at the newly opened Umno complex in Jalan Tun Dr Ismail.

The Prime Minister, who is also Umno president, said Malaysia could not adopt an attitude of ignoring reality and continuing with its normal practise, that is, to spend money without considering its adverse implications.

"We can borrow money from foreign countries and banks until all of the revenue is used to pay off the debts.

"But, like individuals who are in debt, the country has also to pay for what it has borrowed. And these payments will be a heavy burden for us to shoulder."