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MAHATHIR-ENTREPRENEURS

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KUALA LUMPUR, NOV 15 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY URGED BUSINESSMEN ESPECIALLY SMALL TRADERS TO REVIVE INITIATIVE AND THE SPIRIT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP TO OVERCOME THE CURRENT ECONOMIC RECESSION.

SUCH A SPIRIT SHOULD BE FOUND NOT ONLY IN THE CORPORATE SECTOR BUT ALSO AMONG SMALL-SCALE BUSINESSMEN, HE SAID OPENING THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AMWAY DISTRIBUTORS HERE.

+ACTUALLY, MANY OF THE SUCCESSFUL CORPORATE GIANTS TODAY STARTED IN A SMALL WAY AND WERE BUILT UP THROUGH THE INITIATIVE OF THEIR SMALL-SCALE BUSINESSMEN FOUNDERS,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE TRADE AND PROSPERITY OF THIS COUNTRY WERE FIRST ESTABLISHED BY FOREIGN ENTREPRENEURS WHO ARRIVED AND PUT TO GOOD USE THE OPPORTUNITIES CREATED BY THE ABUNDANT NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY.

+IT IS ALSO BECAUSE OF THIS THAT WE HAVE ENJOYED RAPID DEVELOPMENT AND VARIOUS FACILITIES. UNFORTUNATELY HOWEVER, WE ARE TODAY FACED WITH AN ECONOMIC RECESSION CAUSED BY ACTIONS AND FORCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL,+ HE ADDED. -- MORE
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+IN THE PAST, WE WERE DEPENDENT ON COMMODITIES WE PRODUCED IN ABUNDANCE. BUT NOW WITH THE PRESENT DRASTIC DROP IN THEIR PRICES, WE SHOULD ADAPT TO THE NEW SITUATION AND FOCUS MORE ATTENTION ON THE MANUFACTURING AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID A SENSE OF COMMITMENT INCLUDING THE CAPACITY TO MAKE SACRIFICES, STEP UP PRODUCTIVITY AND DEVELOP RESILIENCE TO CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITES IN THESE DEPRESSED TIMES WAS NEEDED.

+THE RECESSION SHOULD BE VIEWED AS A CHALLENGE AS WELL AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE STOCK OF OUR PERFORMANCE THUS FAR. WE SHOULD NOT LOSE HOPE IN THE FACE OF THE PROTRACTED ECONOMIC SLUMP AS THIS PHENOMENON IS ALSO FACED BY MANY OTHER DEVELOPING AND EVEN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT COMPARED WITH MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, MALAYSIA'S PERFORMANCE WAS NOT SO BAD.

IN ITS EFFORTS TO OVERCOME THE EFFECTS OF THE RECESSION, THE GOVERNMENT HAD ADOPTED SEVERAL HARD-HITTING FISCAL AND FINANCIAL MEASURES, STEPPED UP DEVELOPMENT OF THE MANUFACTURING, TOURISM AND AGRICULTURAL SECTORS AND ENCOURAGED BOTH LOCAL AND FOREIGN PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT TO STIMULATE ECONOMIC GROWTH. -- MORE
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HE WAS HAPPY SELANGOR PEWTER PRODUCTS WERE INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF PRODUCTS MARKETED BY THE AMWAY CORPORATION NETWORK IN THE UNITED STATES.

HE HOPED THIS WOULD ENABLE SELANGOR PEWTER TO PENETRATE THE AMERICAN MARKET AND ESTABLISH ITSELF THERE TO PAVE THE WAY FOR THE ADVENT OF OTHER MALAYSIAN PRODUCTS.

THE CONFERENCE TO MARK THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMWAY CORPORATION WAS ATTENDED BY SEVERAL OF ITS FOUNDERS INCLUDING AMWAY CORPORATION PRESIDENT RICH DE VOS. -- BERNAMA
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