

Local business ventures can help boost the economy

LOCAL business ventures, like restaurants, help the country's economic growth because they generate revenue for the country and create job opportunities.

Prime Minister **Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad** said this is especially so when prices of the country's primary commodities are so depressed.

"In a situation of declining primary commodity prices," he said, "it is vital to step up economic activities in the country."

The Prime Minister was speaking at the opening of **Nelayan** floating restaurant at **Taman Tasik Titiwangsa** yesterday.

He said it is essential we control and strengthen the country's economic situation to reduce our dependence on foreign markets.

Garden city

"We should not be envious of those who are successful in such ventures because if they succeed, we will also benefit from the success," he added.

On efforts to improve recreational parks in the city, he said results have been commendable so far.

"Not only have parks been beautified, but **Kuala Lumpur** has been turned into a garden city that is the pride of every citizen and the focus of attention of tourists," **Dr Mahathir** said.

Also present at the opening ceremony were **Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah**, **Federal Territory Minister Datuk Shahrir Abdul Samad** and **Datuk Bandar Datuk Elyas Omar**.