

PULL TOGETHER FOR COMMON GOOD: PM

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has urged Malaysians to pull their weight together to make a success of businesses so that everyone could benefit from it.

He said Malaysians should stop being apathetic about the success or failure of a business simply because it belonged to someone else. "The spill-over effects of a successful business venture benefited everyone," he added.

Malaysians should seek business opportunities while waiting for commodity prices to recover, Dr Mahathir said at the opening of the *Nelayan* floating restaurant at Taman Titiwangsa here today.

"If businesses were managed well, profits

could be accrued and all would benefit.

"If a business flourishes, we should not question as to why the proprietor was reaping larger profits because it will only bring about feelings of envy.

"But if we mobilise our resources, then everyone will benefit from it. That is why the Government feels the Malaysia Incorporated concept is very important," he said.

Elaborating on the multiplier effect which was good for the economy especially in times of recession, Dr Mahathir said for instance, when someone decides to build a restaurant, not only will contractors benefit but suppliers of raw materials as well since they will be able to make some profits.

"And once the restaurant is completed, it will create employment for many people. If the restaurant does well, employees stand a good chance of being promoted and possibly owning shares in the company," he said.

Dr Mahathir hoped modern methods such as the franchise system would be adopted to expand businesses.

He also said the Go-

vernment could introduce rules and legislation but if the people did not want to change their attitudes and take advantage of the existing situation, the country will not progress.

"Envy and baseless allegations and criticism will benefit no one be-

cause they are counter-productive," he said.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir commended the beautification efforts of Kuala Lumpur and said that it looked like a "garden city" now, but he said more trees should be planted to regulate the cli-

mate so that it will not be so hot.

The Prime Minister and his wife were accompanied by Federal Territory Minister Datuk Shahrir Samad and Datuk Bandar Dr Elyas Omar. After lunch, the guests were shown round the restaurant.