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MAHATHIR-ECONOMY
BM

JOHOR BAHRU, AUG 27 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TONIGHT EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY BEING ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY FOLLOWING ENCOURAGING GROWTH INDICATIONS.

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION HAD NOW IMPROVED WITH PRICES OF THE COUNTRY'S PRIMARY COMMODITIES ON THE UPSWING, HE SAID AT A DINNER HERE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO JOHOR.

+MANY WORKERS GOT THEIR JOBS BACK AND SOME EVEN MANAGED TO START SMALL BUSINESSES,+ HE ADDED.

+I AM CONFIDENT OUR ECONOMY WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE IN THE YEARS TO COME PROVIDED WE MANAGE THE COUNTRY WELL AND ENSURE POLITICAL STABILITY.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR STRESSED THAT POLITICAL STABILITY WAS ESSENTIAL TO ATTRACT MORE FOREIGN INVESTMENTS TO CREATE MORE JOBS AND BOOST THE ECONOMY. -- MORE

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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO URGED THE PEOPLE NOT TO BE TOO DEPENDENT ON HELP TO IMPROVE THEIR LIFE AS THIS ATTITUDE WOULD LEAD TO THEIR +COLONIZATION+ BY OTHERS.

THEY SHOULD INSTEAD HAVE INITIATIVE AND BE WILLING TO CHANGE THEIR WAY OF LIFE BY ADOPTING NEW AND MORE EFFECTIVE WAYS OF IMPROVING THEIR LOT.

THIS WOULD UPGRADE THEIR ECONOMIC STANDING AND FREE THEM FROM THE DOMINATION OF OTHERS.

THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, COULD NOT MEET ALL THE DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE IF THEY THEMSELVES DID NOT WORK HARD TO STIMULATE THE ECONOMY TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO COLLECT MORE REVENUE.

ON JOHOR UMNO, HE HOPED IT WOULD CONTINUE TO BE STRONG SO THAT BOTH THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS WOULD ALSO BE STRONG.

ABOUT 2,000 BARISAN NASIONAL MEMBERS, GOVERNMENT OFFICERS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS ATTENDED THE DINNER. -- BERNAMA

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