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MAHATHIR-ECONOMY

BM

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 30 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY URGED THE PEOPLE TO ENSURE THAT THEY DO NOT TAKE NEGATIVE ACTIONS THAT CAN AFFECT THE NATION'S ECONOMY.

FOR INSTANCE, THEY SHOULD BE CAREFUL WHEN QUOTING STATISTICS, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHICH COULD BRING ABOUT VARIOUS ASSUMPTIONS.

THIS COULD CONFUSE THE PUBLIC AND WOULD NOT BENEFIT ANYONE AND ONLY RESULT IN JEALOUSY AND SUSPICION, HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE 36TH MCA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT WISMA MCA HERE.

+IN FACT, QUOTING STATISTICS IN PUBLIC WITHOUT ANY CONCRETE BASIS AND DETAILED STUDIES WILL BE A DISSERVICE TO SOCIETY.

+WE SHOULD LEARN FROM PAST MISTAKES AND SHOULD NOT REPEAT THESE MISTAKES AS THEY CAUSED NEGATIVE EFFECTS ON THE COUNTRY?+ HE SAID.

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THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE PEOPLE SHOULD REFRAIN FROM UTTERING WORDS WHICH HAD NO BASIS AND CARRYING OUT IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS WHICH COULD ERODE THE CONFIDENCE ON THE COUNTRY'S STABILITY AND RESILIENCE.

HE SAID THAT THERE WAS A SMALL GROUP OF MALAYSIANS WHOSE ACTIONS AFFECTED THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY AND +BECAUSE OF THE ACTIONS OF THIS SMALL GROUP, THE WHOLE COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE HAVE TO SUFFER.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID EVEN THOUGH THE COUNTRY MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO MATCH THE 8.7 PER CENT GROWTH RATE ACHIEVED LAST YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONFIDENT THE GROWTH RATE COULD SURPASS THE SIX PER CENT RATE FOR MANY MORE YEARS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE ECONOMY WAS EXPANDING RAPIDLY AND EFFORTS TO REHABILITATE IT AFTER THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF THE RECESSION WOULD BE CONTINUED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS CAPABLE AND HAD THE EXPERTISE TO DEVISE A NATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY AFTER 1990 BUT IT STILL SET UP THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL (NECC) TO GIVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS TO AIR THEIR VIEWS. -- MORE

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MAHATHIR-ECONOMY 3 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSIDER EVERY RECOMMENDATION BY THE NECC.

THE NECC, HE SAID, HAD A WIDE SCOPE OF REFERENCE TO ENABLE EVERY MEMBER TO PLAY A MEANINGFUL ROLE, HE SAID. -- BERNAMA

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