

Strong economic growth has benefited all: PM

By OUR REPORTER (P) BT 27 APR 1990

MALAYSIAN economic growth, which exceeded 8 per cent for two consecutive years, has directly benefited all Malaysians, according to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. Last year the economy grew at 8.5 per cent.

In his Hari Raya message over Radio Television Malaysia last night the Prime Minister said it provided job opportunities, improved performance of businesses both big and small, enabled Malaysians to enjoy better facilities provided by the Government and the private sector and helped improve the quality of life.

The economic recovery has been more meaningful to the people as they know the adverse effects of an economic slowdown. Good economic performance is not just a matter of pride for the Government, but is also for society at large to benefit and enjoy, he said.

The Prime Minister said the Government is satisfied that due to the economic recovery and stability many development projects have been implemented.

He cautioned the people of the dire consequences, should the country be afflicted with strikes, disorder, racial conflicts and other unlawful actions, that often occur in other countries.

"However, all these do not occur in our country as the majority of the people appreciate stability and unity. Malaysians also respect the powers given to government agencies, such as the police and armed forces, to preserve peace and security.

"Any attempt to obstruct the police in their duty or

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attempt to take the law into one's own hands is extremely dangerous," Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir warned.

The Prime Minister added that if there is anarchy, lives will no longer be safe and there will be chaos. And as has been seen in other countries, it is extremely difficult to restore order after an outbreak of anarchy.

"Therefore, let us guard and protect our country's stability. No one will benefit, whether Muslims or non-Muslims, if peace and stability is destroyed," he stressed.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir also called on Muslims to pray for the health and safety of members of the armed forces and other services, such as the medical service, who were unable to celebrate Hari Raya with their families, because of duty.

The Prime Minister also wishes Muslims Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri and called on non-Muslims to celebrate the occasion with their Muslim friends.