

PM: Strong govt is needed to attract investors

BT 19 OCT 1990



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ONLY a strong and stable government can convince foreign investors to continue investing in the country and ensure continuity in its development, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Addressing about 1,000 Barisan Nasional (BN) supporters in Jinjang last night, the Prime Minister said a weak government will only frighten away potential investors as security for their investments is what they want.

As such, it is imperative that Malaysians return the present government with at least a two-thirds majority so that it can continue with the present policies and plans to woo more investors.

He added that foreign countries which have strong governments have been able to bring about rapid development in their respective countries. However, once the ruling parties are eroded of their strength, economic growth slows and further development is made impossible.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir hopes that Malaysia does not fall into this predicament and that Malaysians will not jeopardise the current economic prosperity by voting for the opposition.

On democracy in the country, he said Malaysia is more liberal than other advanced countries as it has always practised liberal policies as evidenced by the existence of vernacular schools which are conspicuously absent in those countries.

At another BN gathering in the Batu constituency, where Datuk Alex Lee is facing a three-corner fight with an independent candidate and Parti Rakyat Malaysia (PRM) chairman Dr Syed Hussein Ali, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the opposition is making promises that they cannot fulfill.

He said taxes need to be collected to support development projects and the Government will not resort to excessive external borrowings or by printing more money as this will lead to heavy foreign debt and high inflation.