

CNS8176

U GE 28-12 00193 EF438

aae tbe

Rpting correcting fourth graf

Mahathir-economy (with pix)

DR MAHATHIR CONFIDENT ECONOMY WILL REMAIN SOUND NEXT YEAR

hm

93
KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 28 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today he was confident Malaysia would record good economic growth next year.

The prime minister said he was convinced the Malaysia economy would remain at least at the current level of growth and would not be affected by the world economic situation.

"Unless something extraordinary happens, we believe 1994 will see good economic growth and the country continuing to enjoy peace," he told reporters after a visit to Angkasapuri with his wife, Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah.

Dr Mahathir said he expected the electronics sector to continue to dominate the country's exports, particularly to the United States which was expected to achieve a three per cent growth next year.

Apart from that, he said, the recovery of the Japanese economy would also help the country's exports. However, he added, he had little confidence generally in the economic performance of the European countries.

-- more

JO MGN

▼28/12/21-39MST

U GE 28-12 00176 EA534

aae tbe

Mahathir-economy 2 Kuala Lumpur

On the general situation in the country this year, he said: "We were fortunate that everything went well because we are at peace and the economic growth is good."

However, he said, the people must remember that the country also faced tragedies, such as the condominium collapse and floods.

"While we rejoice, we cannot forget that disasters can happen at any time, and therefore we must be careful not to get carried away," he said.

Asked of his expectations for 1994, Dr Mahathir said everyone must take one more step forward towards realising the objectives of Vision 2020 because the desire to achieve an average economic growth rate of seven per cent for 30 years called for a growth much higher than the present.

Meanwhile, in a special interview with RTM, Dr Mahathir said the broadcast station could only be corporatised if its interest as a government public information tool could be guaranteed. -- more

JO MGN

▼28/12/17-31MST

U GE 28-12 00186 EA535

aae tbe

Mahathir-economy 3 (last) Kuala Lumpur

He said the Cabinet decided recently that RTM was very necessary as a channel of communication to explain to the people the policies being implemented.

"When there is a revolution in any country, the first place to be taken over will be the information centre. This shows the importance of the information centre to the government," he said.

In his visit which lasted almost six hours, Dr Mahathir opened the Muhammadi Angkasapuri surau and sports arena, attended a "Setia" (loyalty) gathering of officers and staff of the Information Ministry and watched the concert "Untukmu".

He recorded his New Year message for the nation and launched the new names for RTM's TV1 (Saluran Perdana) and TV2 (Saluran Emas).

While the New Year message was being recorded, Dr Siti Hasmah opened the Taman Asuhan Cumi dan Ciki, Angkasapuri.

Dr Mahathir also cut a cake in conjunction with 68th birthday on Dec 20 and another cake to mark the 30th anniversary of TV Malaysia. -- Bernama

JO MGN

▼28/12/17-49MST