

# INVEST ON PERFORMANCE

PM: Buy shares based on  
firms' showing, not on rumours

By LEE KAR YEAN

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has advised stock market investors to pick shares based on the performance of the companies concerned rather than on rumours.

"If you look at Malaysian companies, you will find that they are all doing very well.

"In fact, some are doing better than some of the giant companies in other parts of the world.

"For example, Malayan Banking made almost half a billion ringgit in the first six months of last year.

"That is almost equal to the total income and profit of one of the biggest companies in America with a much higher capital," he said.

The Prime Minister said although Malaysian companies were doing well, the people based their investment decisions on rumours and sometimes on developments in another country.

● TURN TO PAGE 3

# PM's Govt has no hand in the market

● FROM PAGE ONE

"If Malaysians invest wisely I am quite sure the market will be stable and people will not lose money but if they insist on speculating too much, then they should expect to win and lose sometimes.

"If you invest based on performance of companies, you can see the trend and you should not be making losses nor should the market collapse for no apparent reason just because somebody made a statement," he told reporters after opening the Ninth Biennial Scientific Meeting of the Asian-Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver here.

He said the Government did not have a hand in the market nor did it influence the market.

However, he said, the Government would have to step in to stabilise the

## **ANOTHER STRONG REBOUND ON THE KLSE**

— *Star Business*

ringgit if certain quarters tried to force it to go down or up so that they can make a quick profit.

"We have to be very careful because it is so easy to cause the value of the ringgit to go up and then subsequently dump it.

"A lot of people are going to be hurt. So when such a thing occurs, then the Government has a duty to stabilise it, otherwise we won't interfere," he said.

He said the Government wanted to see the people becoming prosperous and not bankrupts.

"Bankrupts, whether individuals or companies, are a cost to the nation. It would be stupid for a Government to make people lose money because then it will lose its income," he added.