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Mahathir

MALAYSIA TO CONTINUE TO BE VOCAL AT INTERNATIONAL FORUMS

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KUALA LUMPUR, June 4 (Bernama) -- Malaysia will continue to voice its views at international forums with frankness and boldness in the interest of justice, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He said that Malaysia was vocal not because it wanted to project itself but because of its principles.

"Malaysia will continue to oppose injustice, cruelty and arm twisting tactics against weak countries," he said in his speech to congratulate and pledge loyalty to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar at the investiture held in conjunction with His Majesty's 72nd birthday at Istana Negara.

On the economic field, Dr Mahathir said that the government would continue to strive to create a suitable climate for business and investment besides taking measures to curb inflation.

He said that the private sector which was the prime mover for economic growth should embark on investment ventures abroad for long-term benefit and should no longer only view prospects for investment in the country. -- more

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Mahathir 2 (last) Kuala Lumpur

Dr Mahathir said that Malaysia would achieve greater success if the country was able to upgrade its competitive advantage.

However, he said that there had been attempts by the West to put an end to the lower labour cost advantage here.

"Our competitive advantage is lower labour costs. As such, it is essential to ensure that labour costs do not escalate but on the other hand there is an increase in wages through higher productivity," he said.

In conjunction with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong's birthday, the Prime Minister gave an assurance that the government and members of the cabinet would strive to assist the royal couple in carrying out their duties.

It was the hope of the government and the people that His Majesty would carry out his duties with fairness and justice in accordance with the law and the constitution, he said.

Dr Mahathir said that Malaysia was enjoying peace and prosperity as a result of untiring efforts of the various races to promote unity and understanding to ensure peace and stability in the country. -- Bernama

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