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MALAYSIA TO MAINTAIN TRADE BALANCE BY INCREASING EXPORTS

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 22 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that Malaysia will double its exports and at the same time reduce unnecessary imports in order to have a healthy trade balance.

Trade balance would be maintained by having more exports and reducing unnecessary imports, he told reporters after calling on visiting Argentinian President Carlos Menem at the Shangri-La Hotel here this afternoon.

Asked on efforts and measures taken by the government to keep the inflation rate below four per cent, Dr Mahathir said the authorities looked at every commercial activities in this country.

"As you know, we have price tagging and we check on prices. We make sure whether any price increase are justified or not," he said.

"Anyway, we have done this for a long time and therefore I think we know a little bit about how to do it," he added. -- BERNAMA

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