

03 MAY 1996

Mahathir-Progress

MELAKA CAN ACHIEVE DEVELOPED STATUS EARLIER

MELAKA, May 3 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is confident that Melaka can achieve the status of a developed state earlier than schedule.

He said the objective could be achieved earlier if the present economic growth could be sustained or improved.

"Melaka appears to be progressing and continues to have inflow of investment," he added.

Dr Mahathir disclosed this at a press conference at the end of his two-day working visit to Melaka today.

The Prime Minister expressed satisfaction at the rapid economic development in Melaka particularly in its two main growth sectors, manufacturing and tourism.

The Melaka state government planned to ensure the state achieved the developed-state status by the year 2010, which is 10 years ahead of the Vision 2020 to turn Malaysia into a developed nation.

Earlier, the Prime Minister attended Friday prayers at the Al Azim State Mosque.

He later launched the Bosnia Herzegovina Mosque Building Fund organised by the state government with a target of collecting RM1 million for the construction of a mosque in the Balkan nation.

Dr Mahathir received contributions totalling RM550,000 for the Fund from several state government agencies including the Melaka State Development Corporation, Kumpulan Melaka Berhad, Melaka Customary Land Corporation and the state Umno.

In the morning, the Prime Minister performed the ground breaking ceremony for the construction of the World Youth Foundation (WYF) Complex at Air Keroh and launched the Malaysia 4B Youth Movement's Flying Club at Batu Berendam airport. -- BERNAMA

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