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A BUSINESSMAN'S VIEW OF FINANCIAL CRISES

By: Abdul Rahman Ahmad

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 21 (Bernama) -- Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, managing director of the Country Heights property group, today offered a businessman's view on how to deal with the current financial turbulence: manage your companies well.

"If you don't manage well, you will get beaten. I myself tell the workers to work harder. This (crisis) is a challenge. We have been in hard times, and we managed," he said in an interview, as the group prepared its Palace of the Golden Horses Hotel for next Monday's meeting of the Group of 15 developing countries

The RM250 million hotel, opened recently, is the centrepiece in the RM1 billion Mines Resort development near here.

Company management ought to, in difficult times especially, communicate more with their staff, Lee said.

The national Budget delivered last Friday, he added, was in a sense all about managing the country out of its difficulties.

"This is a difficult time. You have to endure a short (duration of) pain rather than a longer period of pain," he said.

Lee said he believed Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to be a reliable person. "I believe we have a good government and they know how an economy is to be managed. Let the government manage the economy (because) it really wants to help the people."

The rest of the world, he noted, was now looking at Malaysia. It had proven its capability as an industrialising country, for example, becoming the biggest exporter of air-conditioners and semi-conductors.

"Now, this country is focusing on information technology. We want to prove to the world that we can do it." --BERNAMA

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