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MAHATHIR DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT SOROS HAD SUPPORTED THE RINGGIT

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 5 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today he does not believe reports that US financier George Soros had supported the Ringgit when it was facing problems.

"As the westerners say, 'I will believe it when I see the pigs fly,' he said at a news conference at the end of the first day of the Umno general assembly, here.

Dr Mahathir, who is also the Umno president, was asked to comment on a Wall Street Journal report from York which said that Soros had bought rather than sold the Malaysian Ringgit when the currency's value was dropping.

"I pity him because he supported the ringgit but it fell, meaning that he suffered losses," he said cynically.

"I pity, I sympathise with Soros because he lost, now he is poorer than us," Dr Mahathir said before calling Soros a "rogue" for manipulating the Southeast Asian currencies. -- BERNAMA

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