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Mahathir-Investment

MALAYSIA CONTINUES TO WELCOME FOREIGN INVESTORS, SAYS PM

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 9 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad says that Malaysia will continue to welcome foreign investors.

He said investors from Britain and Europe will find in this country a business-friendly government, a market-driven economy, a pro active private sector and a buoyant optimism.

"Despite recent turmoil in the financial markets, Malaysia remains an attractive investment," he said in a message in conjunction with the Malaysia-British Partnership, The London Dialogue to be held in London.

The dialogue, to be held on Oct 21 on the theme "Malaysia and Britain - Dynamic Partnership for the 21st Century", will be attended by some 300 top corporate leaders from both countries.

It is organised by Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (Asli) with the cooperation of the British-Malaysian Society, Asia House and the Malaysian Commonwealth Studies Centre, Cambridge University.

Dr Mahathir said the government has taken bold steps to overcome the currency and stock market crisis.

"As a pragmatic government, we have instituted remedial measures to reduce our expenditure, defer the big projects, reduce costs and boost productivity so that we can continue our economic progress," he said.

He said for the first half of this year, Malaysia achieved an 8.7 per cent growth.

"While we may slow down slightly next year, I am confident that we shall still achieve moderately high growth with low inflation," he said.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia, as a pragmatic government, will continue with its privatisation programme, deregulation, liberalisation and more importantly be responsive to the views of the business community including genuine foreign investors.

On the dialogue, the Prime Minister said it is timely to facilitate open and frank discussion not only on bilateral issues but also enable British businessmen, fund managers and institutional investors to obtain first-hand information on the current state of the Malaysian economy. --

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