

08 OCT 1997

MP'S PLEDGE TO TAKE TO THE FIELD ON CURRENCY ISSUE

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 8 (Bernama) -- Barisan Nasional MPs will be "out on the field" to explain to the people the agenda of the foreign media and fund managers in blaming Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in their efforts to "legalise" their attacks on the Malaysian economy.

Backbenchers Club chairman Ruhanie Ahmad said the foreign media and fund managers were trying to shift the world focus from their mistake in attacking the currencies of poor nations, ostensibly citing their leadership weakness as being the cause of their currency depreciation.

"We will explain to the people so that they will not be influenced with their tricks as the Prime Minister's statements on their manipulative and speculative attacks of the currency was true," he told reporters after an hour-long meeting Dr Mahathir had with BN MPs at his Parliament House office.

To cover their evil, the foreign media and fund managers discredited the Prime Minister with the claim that the fall of the ringgit was due to the weakness of the government in managing the country's economy, Ruhanie said.

He said the BN MPs pledged their support for Dr Mahathir and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim in their fight against the currency manipulators.

The support for both leaders was truly a firm signal from all Malaysians that the efforts by foreign media and fund managers in pitting the Malaysian leadership against each other would not succeed, he added.

--BERNAMA

AH AR SK