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NCCIM fully supports smart partnership, Malaysia Inc

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THE National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (NCCIM) has given an undertaking that it will continue to support Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's concepts of smart partnership and Malaysia Inc regardless of the prevailing economic problems.

NCCIM president Tan Sri Tajudin Ramli said the problems faced by countries in the region in recent months have lent weight to the concept of mutual cooperation and enrichment advocated by Dr Mahathir to avoid such situations.

"The concept of smart partnership with mutual enrichment as the key principle is the basis of Malaysia Inc. We are now more convinced that Malaysia Inc, with the mutual enrichment principle behind it, is the only way for us," he said at NCCIM's annual dinner in Kuala Lumpur last night which was attended by Dr Mahathir.

"This is the way for us in Malaysia, our neighbours and trading partners as 'prosper thy neighbour' will ensure continued prosperity for all."

Malaysians, Tajudin said, have enjoyed the benefits of Dr Mahathir's ideas and "our neighbours and trading partners from the less developed countries are beginning to enjoy the benefit of smart partnership and prosper thy neighbour philosophy."

Tajudin, who is also chairman of Malaysia Airlines, said businessmen have always focused on economic criteria such as gross domestic product growth, inflation rate and other related indicators in determining the health of the country.

"We have taken for granted many other elements such as political stability, social cohesion, education and many other non-quantifiable factors which are equally important to determine the health of a society or a country."

During the dinner, Dr Mahathir launched the Chamber's Malaysia Trade X-Change On The Net, which is an Internet website on the Malaysian business community and a central database of local companies.

He also gave away prizes for the Malaysia Inc Golf Tournament, which was won by the public sector. Team captain Datuk Abdul Aziz Ismail, senior private secretary to the Prime Minister, received the prizes on behalf of the public sector team.

Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali presented a RM100,000 cheque to the Prime Minister's wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, for the association of wives of ministers and deputy ministers (Bakti).

Dr Siti Hasmah is the president of the association.

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