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NCCIM PRESIDENT: PRIVATE SECTOR TO SEARCH FOR WAYS TO BEAT CRISIS

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 18 (Bernama) -- Tan Sri Tajudin Ramli, president of the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Malaysia (NCCIM) said the country's private sector would continue to seek for ways to overcome the present economic crisis affecting the country as well as the region.

Some of these ways are by incorporating as many ideas as possible, whether they are in the form of reduced imports, improved levels of local content or deferment of projects in order to restore the country's strength, he said.

In a speech at the NCCIM and Malaysia Inc dinner at Sri Kembangan near here tonight, he commended Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's leadership during "this trying period of the country's history."

He added that Dr Mahathir had put together many other elements such as political stability, social, education and many other non-quantifiable factors that had been taken for granted by many business people.

Dr Mahathir was the guest of honour at the function which was attended by more than 800 top businessmen from the private sector as well as top government servants.

Tajudin said many business people were always focused on criteria such as GDP (gross domestic product) growth, rate of inflation and other related indicators in determining the health of the country.

He said the problems faced by countries in the region in recent months had proven the very concepts which the government had always advocated, such as the concept of mutual enrichment instead of a zero sum game.

The concept of smart partnerships with mutual enrichment as the key principle had always been the basis of Malaysia Inc, he said.

Tajudin said the idea of smart partnerships translated into Malaysia Inc had been enjoyed by Malaysians, their neighbours and trading partners.

He assured that the country's private sector would continue with smart partnerships and Malaysia Inc, and "they are not going to change, not now, not ever." -- BERNAMA

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