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PRAY FOR BETTER TIMES FOR THE NATION, URGES HINDU SANGAM

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 28 (Bernama) -- The Malaysia Hindu Sangam today called on Malaysians of the Hindu faith to pray for better times for the nation as they celebrate Deepavali on Thursday.

"We urge all the Hindus in joining prayers for our King, leaders, and the people of Malaysia for a long life and for a recovery from the present economic set-back to greater achievements and prosperity by next Deepavali," its president A. Vaithilingam said.

Hindus should pray that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would be able to face the challenges of the current economic slowdown and that the nation would recover speedily, he said in his Deepavali message.

The association also urges Hindus to spend less "while at the same time keep up the celebration in a spiritual and happy note -- not forgetting to entertain guests, especially our non-Hindu friends", Vaithilingam said.

While rejoicing the victory of good over evil, Hindus should not forget the needy ones and be more conscious of the social-ills among a section of the people, he added. -- BERNAMA

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