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Assembly-Support (Kedah)

SUPPORT MAHATHIR, SAYS SANUSI

ALOR SETAR, Nov 25 (Bernama) -- Kedah Menteri Besar Tan Sri Sanusi Junid today reiterated the Kedah government's support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's in his handling of the economic problems affecting the nation.

"The people should not panic but instead support the government and Dr Mahathir," he said when debating the state budget in the State Legislative assembly here.

Sanusi said the people should also support the proposed establishment of the National Economic Action Council (NEAC) to deal with the depreciating ringgit and the stock market crash.

He said measures to cut spending resulted in the state budget for 1998 showing a RM1.2 million surplus.

Sanusi said the budget was based on the strategy to achieve sustainable growth, transition to capital-based industries, cutting in expenditure apart from maintaining service quality and continuing the social agenda for development.

Revenue is expected to total RM339.8 million with expenditure at RM338.6 million.

He said RM187.4 million was expected from taxes, non-tax revenue (RM42.4 million) and others (RM110 million).

Sanusi said the state's Gross Domestic Product recorded rose from RM5.62 billion in 1995 to RM6.19 billion in 1996.

The per capita income also went up by 7.6 per cent from RM3.79 billion in 1995 to RM4.08 in 1996.

As of July, Kedah attracted foreign investments of RM7.15 billion, he said.

-- BERNAMA

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