

16 APR 1997

TAN SRI YAHAYA AN EXTRAORDINARY MALAY ECONOMIC PERSONALITY

KUALA LUMPUR, April 16 (Bernama) -- Chairman of the DRB-HICOM group, Datuk Mohd Saleh Sulong, described the late Tan Sri Yahaya Ahmad as an extraordinary Malay Economic personality and that his death was a big loss to the country.

"The country needs such a person," he told reporter after the launching of the Bumiputera Economic Achievement Expo at the Putra World Trade Centre by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today.

He said whoever knew Yahaya would like him due to his performance and personality, adding that "he not only has his own business but finds time to serve the community."

Yahaya was killed in a helicopter crash on March 3 with his wife Puan Sri Rahana Othman and helicopter pilot Major (R) Azlizan Abdul Manas.

Saleh said there were plenty more which the late Yahaya wanted to achieve as chairman of the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Malaysia (NCCIM) and chairman of DRB-HICOM.

"DRB-HICOM was taken over on March 20, 1996 and he died hardly a year later. A lot needed to be done which has been entrusted to me," he said, adding that he worked well with the late Yahaya.

In the meantime, at the same function, Anugerah Gallery Sdn Bhd has organised a "Bumiputera Economic Achievement Personality" programme in remembrance of Yahaya's good deeds. -- BERNAMA

SHO FR