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Ling-Message

BE PREPARED FOR BIGGER SACRIFICE, DR LING TELLS MALAYSIANS

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 30 (Bernama) -- Malaysians must be prepared to work harder and made bigger sacrifice to pull the country out of the current economic recession, MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said today.

He said they must not lose hope in facing the challenges, the toughest since the country gained independence 41 years ago, and they must be confident that they could do it within a shorter period than anticipated.

"Our country went through a recession once in mid 80s. With the cooperation and untiring efforts by both the government and the people, we not only beat the recession but also emerged stronger economically," he said in his message to mark the country's 41st National Day celebration tomorrow.

Dr Ling, who is also Transport Minister, also called on Malaysians of all walks of life to give solid support to the government and the leadership of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as Prime Minister in efforts to rehabilitate the economy.

At the same time, they must remain united and discipline to ensure that the country would continue to enjoy political stability and peace, he said.

He also urged Malaysians to continue to work together with the government in ensuring the effectiveness of all measures taken to overcome the economic problem.

"I am confident, with the spirit of MALAYSIA BOLEH, we will overcome the economic recession within a shorter period and emerge into a brighter future," he said.

Meanwhile DAP secretary general Lim Kit Siang has proposed to convene a national economic crisis consultative conference tentatively on Sept 20 for Malaysians concerned about the worsening economic crisis to pool their ideas on how best to overcome the 14-month old economic crisis.

"I will seek an appointment with Daim (Special Functions Minister) next week to ask for the fullest cooperation from the NEAC (National Economic Action Council) and the government for the conference," he said.

Lim hoped the conference would enable Dr Mahathir, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Daim and NEAC members to meet with Malaysians from a cross-section of Malaysian civil society to get a grip on the runaway escalation of the economic crisis.

-- BERNAMA

AFY ABG