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DAP WILL NOT POLITICISE ECONOMIC CRISIS, SAYS KIT SIANG

KUALA LUMPUR, April 22 (Bernama) -- DAP secretary-general Lim Kit Siang, expressing surprise over Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's remarks that the opposition parties were out to fish for votes with the current economic crisis, said today the party will not politicise the country's economic woes.

As a political party, the DAP would want to win more seats in the general election but would not do so at the expense of the sufferings of the people, Lim said in a statement, here.

"DAP leaders had right from the beginning of the crisis extended their fullest cooperation to the government to try to bring about a speedy economic recovery by pointing out the factors which are aggravating it," he said.

Lim was responding to yesterday's statement by the prime minister that the opposition parties were not extending any form of cooperation to the government in its efforts to speed up the nation's economic recovery.

Dr Mahathir also said that the Opposition was using the current economic problems to fish for votes and gain popularity.

Lim, who is the Member of Parliament for Tanjong, said his party was still waiting for the Barisan Nasional to be "really responsible, open and transparent to mobilise the government, society and people into one unit to fully restore confidence and effect a quick economic turnaround."

-- BERNAMA

MAM JK