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Lim-Adviser

GERAKAN LAUDS THE APPOINTMENT OF FINANCIAL ADVISER

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 12 (Bernama) -- The Gerakan fully supports the appointment of the international financial consultancy company, Salomon Smith Barney, as financial adviser to the government.

Its president, Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik, said today the Gerakan was confident that the firm, with its high reputation, would advise the country accordingly over the measures taken for economic recovery.

Speaking to reporters after chairing a Gerakan central committee meeting at the party's headquarters here, he said that the Gerakan was fully confident that the firm would convey the right information on the country's economy, based on its own analysis and findings, to the international community.

On Thursday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced the appointment of the firm as financial adviser to the government. The firm will also be tasked with designing and implementing a substantial financing programme when market conditions are appropriate.

Lim also said that it was heartening to note that the debate regarding currency trading and capital flows had now changed.

He said that some in the international community and even economic analysts were beginning to accept the views of Dr Mahathir who had once stood alone in proposing control measures.

"He was very much alone all these months and even some Malaysians in the beginning had doubts whether his views were right or wrong, but now we see that he is right after all," he said.

Lim also reiterated the Gerakan's support for the prime minister's decision to remove Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from the Cabinet.

"We now believe strongly that he (Mahathir) has every reason to take the decision. The reason of sexual misconduct is a good enough reason, in protecting the image and pride of the country," he said.

Lim, who is Primary Industries Minister, appealed to the people to concentrate on the economic recovery and not be diverted from their tasks to help revive the country's economy.

"It (economic turmoil) is bigger than we think and it will be here for some time, but we can bring about an earlier recovery only if the people concentrate more on helping the nation," he said.

"We are fully confident in whatever decisions made by the prime minister, and we believe that his decision is really for the good of the country," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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