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Mahathir-Deepavali

MALAYSIANS UNITED IN OVERCOMING ECONOMIC PROBLEM, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 18 (Bernama) -- The discipline and unity of the various races have enabled Malaysia to take the ringgit's depreciation and fall in share prices in its stride, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

The measures taken, such as foreign exchange controls, had to a certain extent succeeded in improving Malaysia's economy, he said in his Deepavali message. Deepavali will be celebrated on Monday.

Dr Mahathir said the people should be thankful that despite the country's economic crisis, their lives had not been badly affected like in other countries.

He said that compared with other countries, Malaysians were still able to buy the daily necessities for themselves and their families.

He said the country was still stable and peaceful despite the efforts of certain parties to create instability.

He also hoped that the Deepavali celebrations this year would be as merry as in previous years.

Dr Mahathir said visiting friends during such occasions was a special culture of Malaysians and this should be continued to enhance the relationship and understanding among the various races.

Meanwhile, the People's Progressive Party (PPP), said in a statement that Hindus should show moderation in celebrating Deepavali in view of the current economic crisis.

-- BERNAMA

APG thg JK