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PM: Opposition parties mere agents to foreign prophets of doom

OPPOSITION parties, particularly the DAP, which did nothing to help revive the ailing economy, are mere "agents" to foreign prophets of doom, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

Dr Mahathir said instead of working hand-in-glove with the Government to help solve the current economic problems which affected all Malaysians, the Opposition "parroted" foreigners who were out to destroy the nation and used them to garner more voter support.

"They have nothing to harp on, so they use the economic problems to their advantage," he said.

Replying to a supplementary question from Wan Hanafiah Wan Mat Saman (BN-Pokok Sena), Dr Mahathir said the Opposition felt that they would achieve a landslide victory in the next general election as a result of the current economic problems.

"They feel that the foreigners who had caused the current problems in the country would help them win the next election. This means they (the Opposition) are mere agents for the foreigners," he added.

Dr Mahathir also labelled Lim Kit Siang (DAP-Tanjung) as a "parrot", repeating what had been said by foreigners.

Kit Siang had asked whether factors such as cronyism, corruption and nepotism, the lack of Press freedom, the recent resignations of Datuk Ahmad Nazri Abdullah and Datuk Johan Jaaffar as Group Editor of Berita Harian Sdn Bhd and Editor-in-Chief of Utusan Melayu Group respectively, had affected investor confidence.

Dr Mahathir said whatever was said by the foreign media was parroted by the Opposition, especially the DAP.

He added terms such as denial syndrome, crony capitalism and nepotism were never used by the Opposition until the foreign Press started using them.

He said Kit Siang actually practised nepotism as he had already named his son as his successor.

"This is the biggest example of nepotism," he said.

He added that when the local media reported about nepotism in DAP, Kit Siang had imposed a gag order on his party members.

"No one could talk about it. This is actually the denial syndrome practised in the DAP.

"If they ever take over the administration of the country, in 1,000 years probably, we will see a Government which does not allow any criticism and comprises members of the leader's children, grandchildren and all," Dr Mahathir said.

He said if Malaysia was as bad as portrayed by the Opposition, it would have been impossible for the nation to develop as much as it did.

"But because he (Kit Siang) practises nepotism, DAP had never been successful," he said, citing the failed Tanjung projects in the last three general elections as examples.

Dr Mahathir said whatever was said by the foreign Press would immediately be used by the Opposition.

"They are like parrots seated next to a gramophone and repeating what was heard," he said.

He said the fact that the Opposition echoed the West indicated that they had nothing substantial to put forward as concrete proposals.

"The Opposition in Malaysia lacks quality. It is better to let others

take over," he said.

Dr Mahathir brought laughter in the House when he suggested to Tan Seng Giaw (DAP-Kepong) who was seated next to Kit Siang that it was time that he outflanked Kit Siang.

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