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NO REASON TO BE JEALOUS OF MALAYSIA'S SUCCESS, SAYS MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 20 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today there is no reason for foreigners to be jealous of Malaysia's development and achievements which came about through the sweat of its own people.

The prime minister said although the country did not deny the role of foreign investors in making a success of its economy, Malaysia's success was achieved without begging from foreigners.

"Developing the nation is our right and ambition and there is no reason for anyone to be jealous of us because we did not beg from them," he said at a meet-the-people session with residents of the Federal Territory, here.

He said Malaysia had also helped the citizens of developed nations to live comfortably, including through the cheap goods it produced, besides helping the poor and less developed nations.

Dr Mahathir said the developed nations should thank Malaysia for its prosper-thy-neighbour policy but instead the currency traders from these countries deliberately impoverished Malaysia by depressing its currency and stock market.

However, he was confident that Malaysia would overcome the current economic slowdown with racial unity as a very important factor in achieving this objective.

-- BERNAMA

MAM JK