

29 AUG 1998

Mahathir-Souvenir

PEOPLE HELPING IN ECONOMIC RECOVERY- DR MAHATHIR

PULAU PINANG, Aug 29 (Bernama) -- Malaysians are actively helping in economic recovery through their savings, thrift and purchase of locally made goods, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has said.

The solid support from people of all walks of life had also helped a lot in the efforts to overcome the effects of the economic slowdown following the fall in the value of the ringgit, he said in the National Day celebrations souvenir programme.

The commitment displayed by the people reflected the extent of their loyalty and love for the country and it was the government's hope that the economic problems would soon end, the Prime Minister said.

Efforts to revitalise the economy posed the biggest challenge to the government and people, he said.

The government had taken speedy measures to ensure that the economic problems did not prolong and become worse.

"For nearly a decade the country has been experiencing excellent economic growth but we are now going through an economic slowdown due to pressures from irresponsible groups," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the activities of such irresponsible groups had an adverse effect on the country's rapid development and the strength of the ringgit.

Hence the theme of this year's National Day celebrations "Our Nation, Our Responsibility" was appropriate as the people should defend their dignity and sovereignty from both internal and external threats, he added,

Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister and Chairman of the National Day celebrations Main Organising Committee Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik expressed the hope that the theme would further enhance people's loyalty to the country.

The theme was also aimed at making the people aspire for excellence in the social, economic and political aspects, he said.

-- BERNAMA

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