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UNDERSTAND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, UMNO LEADERS TOLD

SHAH ALAM, Aug 25 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad wants Umno leaders to understand fully the economic downturn facing the country, said Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Abu Hassan Omar today.

This would enable them to counter false information spread by outsiders on the matter, he told reporters of the closed door meeting between Dr Mahathir and Umno leaders at his official residence, here.

Abu Hassan said the outsiders were also using the locals who were ignorant of the situation to spread lies about economic condition in the country.

"That is why the Prime Minister is visiting all states to explain to the people the issue," he told reporters after attending a meet-the-people session with Prime Minister at the Malawati Stadium, here.

Abu Hassan also said government leaders must also be able to analyse information received so as not to be influenced by tactics of outsiders.

"Otherwise, we will just be `pak turut' and tools to outsiders," he said.

-- BERNAMA

AZH ABG