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Mahathir-Budget

2000 BUDGET WILL BE RECOVERY BUDGET, SAYS PM

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 6 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said next year's Budget will be a recovery budget to get the economy back on a firm footing.

"I can assure you that everything will be done in order to get the economy back on a firm footing so that everybody will enjoy prosperity in this country," he said.

Dr Mahathir was speaking at an airport Press conference in Subang near here on returning from a two-week working visit to New York, London and Zimbabwe.

The 2000 Budget will be presented in Parliament on Oct 29.

Referring to the country's economic growth, Dr Mahathir said the National Economic Action Council executive committee has been looking at the third quarter figures on a month by month basis.

"And the figures look good. I should imagine that we can achieve the one per cent growth (rate) by the end of this year," he said.

The government has set a conservative growth of one per cent for this year after a contraction of 7.5 per cent last year.

However, some economists had predicted that Malaysia's economic growth could even exceed five per cent this year.

Dr Mahathir was in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe for the 3rd Southern Africa International Dialogue and had earlier addressed the 54th UN General Assembly in New York. -- BERNAMA

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