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Mahathir-Anwar

PAST ONE YEAR HAS BEEN MOST INTERESTING FOR ME, SAYS PM

SIBU, Aug 6 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the past one year since he sacked his deputy Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from office for sexual impropriety had been "most interesting" to him.

" It has been an education for me. I have learnt all about finance, the economy and about how to deal with rogue currency traders," he told reporters here before returning to Kuala Lumpur after a two-day visit to Sarawak.

After the sacking of Anwar, who was also then finance minister, Dr Mahathir took over as First Finance Minister and appointed Datuk Mustapa Mohamed as Second Finance Minister.

In January, he appointed Tun Daim Zainuddin to take over as First Finance Minister.

Dr Mahathir had then been a most vocal critic of international currency trader George Soros whom he singled out as most responsible for the currency woes which led to economic crisis in most Asian countries.

He also introduced several measures to combat speculative trading of the ringgit besides limiting its amount that could be taken out of the country.

Answering a question, Dr Mahathir said he believed that he had managed (the economy) quite well.

" We are not down yet but the rogue traders are down and the people are now cursing them and not me." he added.

-- BERNAMA

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