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REJECTION OF IMF AID MAKES 2000 BUDGET POSSIBLE

MUAR, Oct 30 (Bernama) -- The 2000 Budget which gives priority to the low-income group would not have been possible if Malaysia had accepted aid from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Health Minister Datuk Chua Jui Meng said today.

He said the country would probably be in a tight situation politically and financially like some other countries if it had accepted aid from the IMF.

As such, Malaysians, irrespective of their political or religious views, should thank the government and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, he said.

The government's success in overcoming the economic slowdown had enabled the Health Ministry to continue with its health development plans including building more hospitals and clinics nationwide, Chua, who is also MCA vice-president, told reporters after a briefing on the Johor MCA election machinery, here.

-- BERNAMA

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