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Ling-IMF

WE HAVE BEEN PROVEN RIGHT, SAYS DR LING

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 10 (Bernama) -- The thumbs up given by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to Malaysia's selective capital controls shows that "we were correct," MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said today.

"When the prime minister saw the economy shrinking, interest rates going up, businesses crumbling, people getting jobless and frustrated, the regions going into chaos, strikes, riots and killings, he decided enough is enough.

"And when he first spoke about his own thinking and analysis that the IMF was not for us, the world sneered at him, and they thought he was out of his mind.

"But he carried on and proved that we were correct, and most of all he was correct. Today, those who laughed and sneered, sheepishly admitted that he was right and what he did was a very good example to other parts of the world which may...the IMF challenge," said Dr Ling, the Transport Minister.

Dr Ling said Malaysians have to continue working hard and keep improving themselves although the economy has improved.

Dr Ling said he believed that Malaysians would cast their votes correctly in the next general election to make sure Dr Mahathir continues to lead Malaysia with a strong government.

"If you find an extraordinary man like that, you must keep him, preserve him, support him and encourage him," he said.

Earlier, Dr Ling announced that MCA had received nine cheques for RM305,837 which would go towards the Kiwanis Down's Syndrome Centre.

The donations included RM60,000 from Puan Sri Lee San Choon and friends, and RM50,000 from Golden Star Video Berhad.

MCA is organising a concert called "A Time to Care and A Time to Share" on Sept 20 at the Renaissance Hotel here to raise RM1 million for the centre.

Meanwhile, MCA Wanita chief Datuk Dr Ng Yen Yen said the movement would hold a "Malaysia-China Cultural Interaction Nite" on Sept 16 at the San Choon Hall, Wisma MCA in Jalan Ampang.

"Besides giving Malaysians the opportunity to enjoy Chinese folk dance, the programme will also help to enhance the relationship between the two countries, especially in a cultural way," she said.

Tickets for the show are available at Wisma MCA; MCA (WP) Building, Jalan Jejaka 2, Taman Maluri; Nanyang Siang Pau and China Press.

For further information, call 03-2618044.

-- BERNAMA

NHA YBY