

13 MAY 2000

UMNO-WRAP (DAIM) (BM)

DAIM: "MARKET TALK" A RESULT OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY ENVY

KUALA LUMPUR, May 13 (Bernama) -- Those who are fond of fabricating so-called market talk about Malaysia and its leaders are in fact envious of the country's economy recovery, said finance minister Tun Daim Zainuddin today.

"In actual fact, this is the work of fabricators in the information technology (IT) age who like to ape Western culture," said the UMNO Treasurer when wrapping up the motion on the economy on the last day of the 54th UMNO general assembly here.

"These people have no other work except fabricate stories day in, day out. They get shaken whenever they see our economy improving by leaps and bounds," he said.

Daim also criticised the foreign media for accentuating the so-called market talk, fabricating stories that he would resign soon and that there was a rift between him and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"I have been working quietly but my name has always been mentioned. If I were to resign, then they say there's a rift. I would like to stress that I'm not affected by all this."

In asking UMNO members not to believe such fabrications, Daim also said that he would like to continue his work in the best possible way.

"I will continue to work hard for our beloved country, for UMNO and for Malays who need to be protected," he said.

In acknowledging that time would come for everyone to retire, Daim added that this was not because of the market's determination.

"We will determine our own destiny," he said. -- BERNAMA

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