

# Go abroad, businessmen told

By ANGIE NG

SHANGHAI: Malaysians should be more adventurous and seek investment opportunities overseas by competing in the international arena, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

"Our businessmen are not very adventurous and they prefer to do business at home as they are more comfortable," Dr Mahathir said at the official launch of the Royal Garden sales and customer service centre in Shanghai.

In commending Golden Plus Holdings Bhd for venturing into the China property scene, Dr Mahathir urged Malaysians to go out to endure some discomfort and difficulties in going abroad.

The Main Board property group has endured many years of hardship before becoming the operator of the biggest and most popular water theme park in Shanghai.

Golden Plus Holdings' first venture into China was in 1996 in the Dino Water Park project.

The group is currently undertaking the Royal Garden residential development comprising prestigious condominiums and townhouses in Shanghai.

Dr Mahathir said the projects were well received by the Chinese authorities and the people, adding that this good business relationship should be further nurtured.

The Prime Minister welcomed China to gain accession into the World Trade Organisation that will set the

impetus for greater economic growth and prosperity for other countries.

"Despite what other people's opinion of China, I have confidence in China with its hard working and skilful population of 1.3 billion people, and it has the potential to become a great economic powerhouse," he added.

Golden Plus Holdings chairman Datuk Zainal Abidin Mohamad Ali said the group was enthusiastic to be actively participating in the challenging and extraordinary growth-oriented city of Shanghai.

Piling work for Phase 1A of the Royal Garden will commence next month and is targeted for completion by November 2002. Sales launch for Phase 1A is scheduled in March next year.

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