

24/04/2001

Economic performance commendable

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad

WITH great pleasure, I stand before this distinguished House to present the following motion:

"That this House recognising the recovery of the economy and the achievement of our socio-economic objectives during the implementation of the Seventh Malaysia Plan;

Endorsing the efforts of the Government in the implementation of the Third Outline Perspective Plan;

Approves the Eighth Malaysia Plan, which seeks to implement strategies and programmes and allocate funds designed to achieve the objectives and commitment of the National Vision Policy, as set out in the Command Paper No.12 of 2001;

That in approving the Eighth Malaysia Plan, this distinguished House calls upon all Malaysians to stand united with renewed vigour and commitment in undertaking this noble task of building a progressive and resilient nation."

With your permission, Mr Speaker, Sir, I present the Eighth Malaysia Plan for the period 2001-2005, for the debate of the Honourable Members of this distinguished House.

A few weeks ago I stood before this House to present the Third Outline Perspective Plan (OPP3), 2001-2010, which contains the National Vision Policy (NVP), that provides the direction for the development of the nation and the policy agenda for the next 10 years.

As Honourable Members are aware, this House has approved the OPP3 with wide consensus that the new policy will contribute towards further strengthening national unity among the various races in our beloved country.

The Eighth Malaysia Plan, which covers the period 2001-2005, represents the first phase in the implementation of the OPP3. As we enter the Eighth Plan period, we continue to face many challenges.

Notwithstanding this, we are confident that we can overcome these challenges with the implementation of the right mix of policies and the commitment of all.

This confidence is based upon our ability to implement the Seventh Malaysia Plan despite the attacks by currency speculators that caused the country to experience a slowdown in the economy.