

PM: Different plans to boost economy

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KUALA LUMPUR: The Government will adopt different strategies to boost the economy in its 2003 Budget, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad disclosed here last night.

He, however, did not provide details on next year's budget which will be tabled in the Parliament on Sept 20.

Dr Mahathir, who is also the Finance Minister, expressed confidence that the local business community would cooperate to help make the new strategies a success as they did to help Malaysia become a much developed country.

"The local business community have risen to the government's call to them to go over-

seas to capture new markets for their products; and you have helped. Malaysia become a much greater country than before," he said in his speech at the 10th anniversary dinner of the Malaysia South-South Association (Massa) at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel here last night.

Dr Mahathir lauded Massa president Tan Sri Azman Hashim and its members for working hard to market Malaysian products overseas and promote Malaysia as a good place to invest.

Massa was formed in 1991 on the initiative of Dr Mahathir, who foresaw a need for a business group to promote trade and investment in South-South countries such as Chile, Brazil and Argentina.