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MAHATHIR-INVESTMENT

MAHATHIR SAYS DOMESTIC INVESTMENT STILL SECURE

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said here today that he believes that the domestic investments are secure and will continue to be so despite the recent bomb blast in the resort island of Bali which came as a shock to the region.

"We are not getting much foreign direct investment (FDIs) in any case, but in terms of domestic investment, people here are quite secure and I think they will continue to invest," he said.

Nevertheless, Dr Mahathir said the investment climate would somehow be affected because of the issue of security.

"It (investment) will be affected because people feel more and more insecure, you can have all kinds of security measures, but people will continue to feel insecure because there is no security measure that is full-proof," he said, when responding to questions on whether such incident would affect the investment climate especially in Malaysia.

Dr Mahathir was met after the official opening of the Barisan Nasional Convention for Federal Territory, here today.

When asked on measures taken by Malaysia to beef up security, Dr Mahathir said the government had long taken security steps which included detention under preventive laws of Internal Security Act (ISA), though undemocratic as it was made out to be.

Describing the Bali incident as an unfortunate one, Dr Mahathir said it showed that there were now greater feelings of hatred, bitterness and frustration among many than those of the Sept 11 incident in New York.

This was mainly because there was no attempt to trace the causes of the anger, but instead more things were being done which increased the anger of many people.

"Generally there is a lot of anger today. Americans are very angry because their country, for the first time was attacked... and they are reacting (like) many angry people, which simply raised the anger of other people.

"It appears that nobody seems to be using reasons and logic to work out things," he said. -- BERNAMA

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