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MAHATHIR-CORPORATE

NOT EASY TO GATHER INFO ON CORPORATE MISCONDUCT, SAYS MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 23 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said here today that it was not easy to gather information on corporate misconduct.

"If we go to court hastily because we are angry, or we hate a person, there is a possibility that we will lose (the case)," he said when asked to comment on the statement by the president of the Malaysian Institute of Corporate Governance, Datuk Megat Najmuddin Megat Khas.

Megat Najmuddin said yesterday that there was no point talking about corporate governance and transparency if the crooks get away with billions of ringgit.

He raised the issue that Malaysia has many corporate misdoings but not many had been charged.

Dr Mahathir said this at press conference after closing the international seminar on the Gold Dinar in Multilateral Trade organised by the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia (IKIM) here.

Dr Mahathir said that if Megat Najmuddin has the information, the authority would want it.

The Prime Minister said that it would not be easy to obtain information that "would be able to stand up in court."

On the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER) forecast that Malaysia's third quarter 2002 Gross Domestic Product (GDP) could grow by five percent or more, Dr Mahathir said it was possible. -- BERNAMA

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