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Abdullah-Economy

ECONOMIC PACKAGE WILL SHOW RESULTS WITHIN THREE MONTHS

BANGI, May 21 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is confident that the economic stimulus package announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will bolster the national economy and show results within three months.

He said the package would give a boost to various economic sectors including the tourism and housing sectors.

The Deputy Prime Minister also expressed the hope that banks would play a more active role and help realise the objective in the package.

Abdullah was speaking to reporters after closing a seminar on "Defending the Dignity and Sovereignty of the Nation: Handling Regional and International Agenda." It was organised by the Overseas Umno Clubs Alumni.

Abdullah said the funds still with the banks that were not given out as loans were in fact government money and hence the banks should actively and speedily approve loan applications.

He said all the initiatives contained in the package were to generate national economic development.

Responding to a question, Abdullah said the MTUC should not picket following the announcement of lower dividends by the EPF this year.

"They should not resort to such action. Instead we all should cooperate and avoid action that will weaken the stimulus package," he said.

Abdullah said EPF contributors should in fact be grateful with what they had been given particularly during the present uncertain economic situation.

-- BERNAMA

SR MAS AHH AAM