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PM-STIMULUS

PM: ECONOMY HAS RESPONDED WELL TO STIMULUS PACKAGE

PUTRAJAYA, June 9 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad says the Malaysian economy has responded well to the government's stimulus package if one took into the consideration the movement of the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange's Composite Index.

"The response is very good. If you take the share market index as an indicator, it seems that the people have responded very well," he told reporters after chairing the 3rd session of the 2004 Budget dialogue session here today.

"For the first time, it (the KLCI) has decoupled from the New York Stock Exchange. Normally, we go up and down according to the Dow Jones (index) but now while the Dow Jones is down, we are still up. So it's a good thing," he added.

When Dr Mahathir, who is also the finance minister, announced the stimulus package on May 21, the KLCI went up by 3.41 points to 640.37 points.

The KLCI surged to 682.43 points last Thursday and moved to its year's high today when it settled at 685.25 points at today's midday close. --
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