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Mustapa-Economy

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR COOPERATION YIELDS NEW ECONOMIC PACKAGE

KOTA BAHARU, Feb 8 (Bernama) -- The national economic restructuring package to be tabled by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the end of next month is the result of continuous monitoring of the national economy by the government.

Executive Director of the National Economic Action Council (NEAC) Datuk Mustapa Mohamed said the package, aimed at strengthening the national economy, was achieved through the cooperation of and data received from the private and public sector.

"The move (economic package) is made to ensure that we are on a much stronger footing," he told reporters, here today.

Yesterday, Second Finance Minister Datuk Dr Jamaludin Jarjis said the package was part of the country's long and short-term strategy to ensure that the national economy remained competitive especially to ward off any slowdown should a war break out between the United States and Iraq.

Mustapa said the economic package was actually to assist the government to choose the best action should the economic impact from the war be worse than anticipated.

He said the new package would largely touch on internal efforts to strengthen the country's economy while all quarters were asked to cut down on their bureaucratic problems to speed up national growth.

"Sometimes qualitative measures are better than measures aimed at increasing spending," he said.

Mustapa said Malaysia had always adopted an open attitude in efforts to strengthen the country's economy.

Meanwhile, Mustapa, who is also Kelantan Umno chairman, directed all 14 Umno divisions in the state to carry out activities and programmes which were more people friendly.

"We want the people in Kelantan to look upon Umno as a party capable of providing better services to the rakyat in the state," he said.

-- BERNAMA

RAR AO