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MAHATHIR-VALUECAP

VALUECAP HELPS TO ENHANCE INTEREST IN BUYING OF SHARES

KOTA BAHARU, Jan 15 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said here today that the move by Valuecap Sdn Bhd injecting investment in the local market, has created a positive effect and increased the public's interest to buy shares.

He said that Valuecap also has the right to buy shares in the market as it was done in a transparent way.

"It (Valuecap) did not buy that much shares. With the existense of Valuecap, members of the public were keen in buying shares," he told a press conference here today.

The Prime Minister arrived here today on a two-day working visit to Kelantan.

Valuecap, an investment holding company with a RM10 billion fund, was in the market since last Friday.

Its move to enter the market is expected to increase the value of shares on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange (KLSE) at between 33 percent to 68 percent from the current value.

At the press conference, Dr Mahathir was asked on the move taken by Valuecap, which certain parties claimed was not transparent.

Dr Mahathir said that Valuecap has the right to buy the shares concerned and that the company's participation has resulted in instilling investor confidence in the market.

The Prime Minister also said that in contrast to Valuecap's move, there were other parties, which purposely wanted to push down the current value of the shares by selling the shares on a major scale.

"When there are no people buying, the prices will fall."

"Now if there are those who sell, we will buy. We have the right to buy." he said.

"You show me the others who have been pushing down the value of the shares. Are they transparent?," he asked.

Valuecap was formed by a few key institutional players to invest in companies on the KLSE. -- BERNAMA

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