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Foreign investors won't shy away, says Rafidah

INTERNATIONAL Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz yesterday said foreign investors will not shy away from Malaysia just because Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad spoke of the exploitation by Westerners.

She said investors made their business decisions based on the viability of their ventures and not on political sentiment, which has no effect on profit margin.

"It's a question of profit," she told reporters, mostly from foreign news agencies, on the sidelines of the Umno general assembly.

"All these years, we have been making remarks about the Americans, about Europeans and Australians, but business with these people has continued as usual."

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president, had in his opening address on Thursday, reflected on the colonial history of the Europeans.