

**Malaysia Has Enough Strength To Face Global Economic Slowdown**  
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GEORGETOWN, Aug 20 (Bernama) -- Despite the global economic uncertainties, the Malaysian government is confident that the country has enough domestic strength to overcome the impact, said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop.

Nor Mohamed, who heads the Economic Planning Unit (EPU), said while it was natural that Malaysia will be affected by the slowdown in the global economy, it will not be the first time that the country would be facing such a situation.

"Our leadership have faced such situation many times since independence.

"In the 2008 economic crisis, we not only managed to overcome the situation but we bounced back to be in the strongest position to move forward when the economic recovered," he said.

He also believed that while the country will be affected by the global slowdown, it would still be able to achieve a GDP growth of five to six per cent this year.

Meanwhile in Ipoh, Second Finance Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah also said that Malaysia would be able to improve its GDP growth in the second half of this year supported by a better output from the petroleum sector.

There is a need to achieve a 5.5 per cent growth in the second half for Malaysia to achieve its target this year, he said, adding that factors affecting the Petroleum sector's growth would be overcome during the period.

He said this to reporters after attending a religious programme organised by the Tambun Parliament constituency's Women and Family Development Council, in Ipoh, today.

On the country's development expenditure, Ahmad Husni said the Implementation Coordination Unit under the Prime Minister's Department had set up a monitoring system which carries out checks weekly to ensure that all developments plans are going in order.

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