

# Tribute to Ghafar for services, contribution

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The Prime Minister paid the tribute in his speech at the opening of the Umno annual general assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre.

Dr Mahathir said: "I am sad that Yang Berhormat Encik Ghafar Baba has chosen to resign his position as

Deputy Prime Minister and all other posts in Government and party.

"Encik Ghafar has contributed energy and ideas to the party ever since it was formed, and has held the post of vice-president for 25 years, a record for a party leader. He then held the post of deputy president.

"I am grateful to Encik Ghafar who was willing to hold the post of Deputy Prime Minister when Datuk Musa Hitam resigned in 1986.

"The support and co-oper-

ation given by Encik Ghafar has helped me and the party overcome the crisis following the decision to declare Umno illegal in 1988.

"On my part, and on the part of the supreme council and all members, I wish to thank Encik Ghafar for his services and contributions to the party and Government.

"I pray that Encik Ghafar succeeds in whatever undertaking he chooses to do after this. His contributions will always be remembered."

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