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ANUAR-IMF

IMF FEELS MALAYSIA IS READY TO BECOME MODEL NATION

SEPANG, July 13 (Bernama) - - The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is of the view that Malaysia is ready to become a model nation for other developing countries to emulate in terms of its economic development and political stability.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said here tonight that the IMF Head had stated this during their lengthy discussion.

"He had proposed to the Organisation of African Unity last week that Malaysia and several other countries in this region be made role models to ensure stable political system, proper macro economic management, focusing on national development and ensuring the welfare of the people," he said at the launching of the Palm Garden IOI Resort at Putra Jaya near here.

Anwar, who is also Finance Minister, said despite the high recognition given, Malaysia must be sensitive in ensuring that the success achieved could be maintained by continuing with the national policies including those implemented in the last 10 years under the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said these included giving sufficient incentives to the private sector to develop and expand with the support of the public sector.

A major emphasis is the service industry which contributed 43 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product, where there is ample scope for expansion.

He said the service sector still needs to be expanded because the country is still being burdened by a balance of payment deficit.

At the same time, the Deputy Prime Minister reminded the private sector not to forget their social obligation such as in helping to solve the problem of housing for the poor.

At the ceremony, Anwar received a contribution of RM3 million from the managing director of IOI, Tan Sri Lee Shin Cheng for the hardcore poor housing foundation.

IOI chairman Datuk Haji Ibrahim Abdul Rahman, who is Anwar's father, handed the company's contribution of 12 units of proton cars to be used as police patrol cars, which were received by Inspector General of Police Tan Sri Rahim Noor on behalf of the Royal Malaysian Police. -- BERNAMA

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