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Umno-Winding (Election)

BN BANKING ON ITS TRACK RECORD, SAYS ADBULLAH

KUALA LUMPUR, June 20 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said given the excellent "credentials" of the Barisan Nasional (BN), the party should be returned to power with a two-thirds majority in the next general election.

The Deputy Prime Minister expressed confidence that when it was time to face the ballot box, the people would give priority to their future and that of the country.

They would think of opportunities for quality education, opportunities to make a lot of money, and a chance to continue enjoying the prosperity brought by the BN, he said.

"I believe these BN credentials will convince the people to continue voting the BN," he said when winding up the debate at the 53rd Umno general assembly here today.

He said the BN's excellent track record included its success in developing the country, maintaining peace and security, and holding elections without fail in accordance with the democratic practice.

Apart from this, Malaysia had achieved various successes and become famous in the eyes of the world in less than half a century, he said.

Abdullah, an Umno vice-president, said with such achievements the BN government did not fear facing the general election.

"We give the people a chance to choose the government they like, and we are never worried about letting the people decide our fate because we are confident with ourselves," said Abdullah, who is performing the duties of Umno deputy president.

He believed the people wanted a party and government that is firm in its ways, courageous and highly capable in ensuring the country's continued progress.

Describing the BN as a smart partnership, he said its success in bringing prosperity to the people could not be disputed.

"We must convince the people that this is a big party and its members are united, apart from projecting the cohesiveness of the BN component parties to face the polls," he said.

Abdullah reiterated his pledge to help Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in whatever duties he was assigned to help ensure BN's victory.

"The time has come for all Umno members and machinery to work hard towards this end," he said.

He said the party president's task in allocating seats and deciding on candidates for the general election would be made easier with the spirit of unity shown by party members.

He said Dr Mahathir had told him before that the question of hard work and campaign was not a problem, but the difficult part was in deciding on seat allocations and candidates.

On the date for the general election, he said: "The election this time may be the last this century or the first for the next century...meaning I too do not know when it will be held."

Abdullah also congratulated Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob on his appointment as Umno secretary-general, and expressed appreciation to Khalil's predecessor Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik for his services.

-- BERNAMA

Team RON YBY

