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Kadir

MALAYSIA MODEL OF INDUSTRIAL HARMONY DESPITE DOWNTURN

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 12 (Bernama) -- Malaysia serves as a model country where the current economic crisis virtually leaves no effect on the country's industrial harmony, said outgoing Human Resources Deputy Minister Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzil.

"While other countries are not spared, industrial actions such as strikes following the economic problems are rarely seen in Malaysia," he said when handing over duties to his successor Datuk Dr Affifuddin Omar, formerly Deputy Finance Minister.

Human Resources Ministry Secretary-General Datuk Zainol Abidin Abdul Rashid and heads of department were present.

Abdul Kadir has been transferred to the Home Ministry as one of the deputy ministers in last Friday's Cabinet reshuffle.

He said while the Human Resources Ministry lacked the glamour that went with some other ministries its performance remained a source of pride.

"We not be as well-known as the others but this does not mean we're a failure. We seldom see strikes ...and this we achieve on the quiet. Other organisations like Socso and the Manpower Department have also functioned well," he said.

Abdul Kadir expressed confidence that Dr Affifuddin's experience at the Treasury would be a boon to performing his new duties at the Human Resources Ministry especially in securing allocations for more human resource development programmes.

He pledged to give his utmost in assisting newly-appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi create a people-friendly administration according to the wishes of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"I am looking forward to this new experience," said Abdul Kadir.

Dr Affifuddin said while in his previous tasks he dealt more with budget allocation, his new duties would give him the opportunity to implement policies relating to human resources.

"I'm proud to be able to come here after three years at the Finance Ministry. I do hope to make the most of my new assignment," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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