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PM tables mid-term review of Plan, says he is well

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad made his first appearance at the first meeting of the fifth session of the Ninth Parliament yesterday, addressed it for over an hour, and told reporters later that he is well. He was at the Dewan Rakyat to table the mid-term review of the Seventh Malaysia Plan (1996-2000).

"I have been able to speak for one hour and five minutes. I think it is a good indicator," Dr Mahathir said when asked how he felt after tabling the mid-term review.

The Prime Minister was admitted to the National Heart Institute for lung infection, soon after returning from the haj earlier this month. He had to give several important functions a miss, including the tabling of the White Paper on the Economy in Parliament on April 6.

"I spoke in the same voice . . . the same old voice. I am glad to be able to deliver this speech because it is very important to the country," he said.

On whether there should be any concern on his health, Dr Mahathir said: "I don't think it should be. I will have coughs off and on. Sometimes, it becomes severe. Sometimes, not so severe. If I can put up with it, I will."

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