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`This is a success of all Malaysians'

LANGKAWI, Wed. - Returning hero Datuk Azhar Mansor thanked all Malaysians for believing in him, saying the success was not his alone but was that of all Malaysians.

"For three years, when I was meeting people to get the project off the ground, I thought it was only my dream."

In a short speech to the waiting crowd, Azhar added: "Alhamdulillah ... I've managed to bring Jalur Gemilang back safely to Malaysia. This is not my success alone ... this is an achievement of all Malaysians.

"From the numerous e-mail messages I received during my journey, I realised that this was no longer just my dream, but the will of all Malaysians.

"I wish to thank so many people for this journey, particularly (the Prime Minister Datuk Seri) Dr Mahathir (Mohamad) for his support and encouragement. I also want to thank my sponsors and all Malaysians who helped make this journey possible."

He said his priority was to finish the documentation so that his achievement could be ratified by the World Sailing Speed Record Council.

Azhar added that he would spend the next few days with his family as he had been away for almost a year.

After his speech Azhar presented a Malaysian flag to Dr Mahathir to signify the handing over of the Jalur Gemilang to the nation.

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