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Wage givers face tougher challenge

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today it was more difficult to be a wage giver than a wage earner.

Viewed against this, he said, the success of pioneering telecommunications services provider Celcom, headed by Tan Sri Tajudin Ramli, was more meaningful as the company started small but grew in size and importance.

"If one were to take the easy way out, one can just be a wage earner. But being a wage giver offers more challenge," he said.

Attributing Celcom's and Tajudin's success to hard work and perseverance, Abdullah said it was also made possible by deliberate government policies to nurture a healthy business environment.

The Deputy Prime Minister said this at Celcom's 10th anniversary celebrations at the Putra World Trade Centre today.

Earlier, Tajudin said the company first started with only 10 workers but now has 4,000 servicing about a million customers.

He said the success of Celcom was based on the philosophy of growing and sharing - the theme of its 10th anniversary celebrations.

"This theme reflects our gratitude and appreciation to the Government, stakeholders, business partners, customers and everybody who has contributed to our success.

"As we progress together, we will continue to share our fruits of success for mutual enrichment," said Tajudin.

This, he said, was in line with the principle of smart partnership, a principle expounded by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and one that has taken Malaysia to the apex of achievement and prosperity.

"Celcom totally subscribes to and supports this principle. This principle is also subscribed to by our sister companies - Tricelcam in Cambodia, Tritel in Tanzania and Sheba Telecom in Bangladesh.

"Wherever we go, we will always grow and share the fruits of our success."

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