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Hamid-Islam

MALAYSIA A ROLE MODEL FOR OTHER MUSLIM COUNTRIES

KUALA LUMPUR, June 15 (Bernama) -- Malaysia has become a role model for other Muslim countries following the progress it made in technology transfer, said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Paduka Dr Abdul Hamid Othman.

He said many Muslim countries, due to their strong nationalistic fervour and lack of confidence in the West, do not open their doors to foreign investment and industry.

"But, they have a high regard for Malaysia. There are intellectuals from Muslim countries who went to the West and bought items such as computers and cameras made in Malaysia," he told a press conference after a national level Maulidur Rasul gathering at Stadium Putra in Bukit Jalil here today.

Dr Abdul Hamid said this respect for Malaysia was conveyed to him when he attended the just concluded four-day World Islamic Development conference organised by the Egyptian government.

He said among the technology transfer pioneered by Malaysia in other Muslim countries include padi cultivation and chicken farms by Bernas in Guinea and oil exploration by Petronas in Sudan.

He said Muslim countries in the G-15 (grouping of developing countries) are looking forward to hearing what Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has to say when he addresses the G-15 summit in Cairo on Monday.

He said Muslims countries will get to see progress achieved by Malaysia when Ministers in charge of haj matters meet here in September and the conference of Ministers in charge of Islamic matters here in January next year.

"Others have a high regard for the progress and political stability in this country, so it is unbecoming of locals to belittle our own achievements," he said.

Dr Abdul Hamid also said the tighter conditions imposed by the Saudi Arabian government on performing the Umrah covered all countries.

-- BERNAMA

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