

05 APR 2002

Mahathir-Gratitude

DR MAHATHIR EXPRESSES HIS GRATITUDE TO EVERYONE

LANGKAWI, April 5 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight conveyed his gratitude to the people for their support and contribution which had assisted in bringing development to the country.

He said that without the support of the multi-racial community who loved peace, it would be very difficult for the country to achieve the development enjoyed now.

"Without the people's support, it's impossible for the government to develop the country, and efforts to develop the nation became much easier because the rakyat love to live in peace," he said at the Prime Minister's Appreciation Night organised by the Langkawi Barisan Nasional at Dewan Mahsuri, here.

He thanked government officers and staff for their ability to carry out the administration of the country efficiently.

He also thanked the industrialists and businessmen because without efficient entrepreneurs it would be impossible to develop the country.

"Even if we have good political leadership, efficient government officers and staff, it will be impossible to develop the country without efficient entrepreneurs," he said.

Dr Mahathir said it was possible to develop the country because everyone gave their cooperation to the government and did not pose much problems.

He also thanked the ministers, menteri besar and chief ministers, executive council members, state assemblymen, members of parliament and senators.

"When one thanks the Prime Minister, it means that the appreciation is also given to the ministers, menteri besar, exco members, members of parliament and senators because I am their leader," he said.

Touching on himself, Dr Mahathir said without the people's support, it would have been impossible for him to become a people's representative, Education Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Prime Minister for 21 years.

He said the achievement was due to the support of the people for him and "actually, it's I who should be thankful because of the people's support."

"The support gave me inspiration and I am thankful to Allah for being given the opportunity to serve the people, religion and country," he said.

The gathering was specially organised to express gratitude to the Prime Minister who had contributed much to Langkawi and its people to the extent that the once quiet island has now transformed to a world famous resort island.

Also present was the Prime Minister's wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

-- BERNAMA

JM MZM NH AO