

# Lim: BN system will allow smooth power transition

STAR 29 OCT 2003

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The political system set up by the Barisan Nasional over the years will allow for a smooth power transition come Friday, Gerakan president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik said.

"We are sad that Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is resigning but with a system like ours, we can organise a smooth and meaningful power transition," he said at the Gerakan Deepavali open house here last night.

Commenting on the transition scheduled to take place when Dr Mahathir hands over his duties as Prime Minister to Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Lim added: "Gerakan welcomes Abdullah's leadership. A new face taking over does not pose a problem. Barisan's stability and policies will continue."

Dr Lim, who is Primary Industries Minister,

said Gerakan would give full support to Abdullah who would also take over as Barisan chairman.

On Abdullah's leadership style, Dr Lim said Malaysians could expect something different as had been shown by each of the previous Prime Ministers – Tunku Abdul Rahman, Tun Abdul Razak Hussein and Tun Hussein Onn – as well as Dr Mahathir.

He said, however, the focus would still be on developing the country.

Tracing the personal traits of the four leaders, Lim said:

"Tunku Abdul Rahman strived for independence, Razak focused on rural development, Hussein was a straight-forward no-nonsense type while Dr Mahathir's emphasis was on modernisation."