

# Pak Lah:

# Work

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# with me

**PENANG:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi told Malaysians not to "work for him" but to work alongside him for the country.

Abdullah, who returned to his home state as the country's fifth premier, also urged the people to continue supporting Barisan Nasional.

"I thank everyone for this appointment as PM, especially the people of Penang, for the support I have received," said Abdullah to the thunderous applause of thousands of people who had gathered at the Penang International Airport to welcome him.

He added that Barisan would continue to bring progress and development to the people, religion and country.

"The coalition will hold steadfast to the principles of co-operation among the various races and power sharing concept in the government," he said.

He also thanked all the component party members, including the Menteri Besar of Perlis Tan Sri Sahidan Kassim, Perak's Datuk Seri Mohd Tajol Rosli

Ghazali, Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob and Penang Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon, who had come to welcome and congratulate him.

"Let us all co-operate (the component parties) and strengthen racial unity which is the building block of this country.

"I have 'inherited' a Government from Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad who had made Malaysia a developed country among the developing nations.

"Policies drawn up by Dr Mahathir, leaders present here and I would not have been successfully implemented without the support of the people," said Abdullah.

He also hoped Penang and the whole nation would continue to see more development and progress.

Earlier, Dr Koh said Abdullah had been tested and trusted to lead the country as the fifth premier.

He had served as a minister in the various ministries before becoming

■ Turn to Page 3

## Koh: Penangites proud of Pak Lah

STAR - 2 NOV 2003  
■ From Page 1 |

the Deputy Prime Minister and now the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

Dr Koh also said Abdullah was a patient and caring man who held on to his principles

and had weathered political storms to reach the country's highest helm.

"As Penangites we are very proud that Pak Lah, Penang's son, is leading the country.

"Pak Lah will continue to

lead the country in his own style of leadership and bring progress and changes for the betterment of everyone," he said, adding that Penangites would be solidly behind Abdullah.