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Koh-Abdullah

PENANG BN PROMISES BIG WIN AS SHOW OF SUPPORT FOR ABDULLAH

PENANG, Nov 1 (Bernama) -- The Penang Barisan Nasional (BN) will work harder to ensure a bigger win in the next general election as proof that people in the state are giving solid support to the new Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon said BN would ensure that people throughout the state gave their solid support to Abdullah.

"Pak Lah is not only the national leader but also leader of NAM (Non-Aligned Movement) as well as OIC (Organisation of Islamic Conference) and we will give solid support to Pak Lah," he said in his speech at the gathering to welcome home Abdullah as Prime Minister at the Bayan Lepas International Airport, here today.

He said the rakyat in the state must also give their full support to Abdullah's leadership to face the challenges in realising the national vision mooted by former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said Abdullah was a Penang-born leader who was very patient, committed, firm in upholding his principles and beliefs and had succeeded in overcoming various tests and challenges.

Koh also said that Malaysians were fortunate because the power transition and change in leadership went smoothly and was agreed upon by everyone.

He said the people were also confident that Abdullah would continue the excellent tradition and strengthen the country's position built by the previous four Prime Ministers.

About 30,000 people from all strata of society were at the airport and lined up along the road leading to the Penang Bridge to welcome Abdullah home after being sworn in as Prime Minister yesterday.

Abdullah later shook hands with the people at the terminal before getting into the car escorted by a convoy of 1,000 motorcyclists from the state for the drive to meet his mother, Datuk Seri Kailan Hassan, at her residence at Jalan Perak, Kepala Batas.

Meanwhile, Information Minister and Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob, who was also present, told reporters that his ministry would continue to intensify programmes in conveying important messages on national development to the people.

He said Radio Television Malaysia (RTM) today carried live the coverage on Abdullah's homecoming here to enable the rakyat throughout the country to listen to the speech and message by the new Prime Minister.

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