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Assembly-Perak (Mahathir)

PERAK ASSEMBLY PASSES MOTION OF THANKS TO DR MAHATHIR

IPOH, Nov 11 (Bernama) -- The Perak State Legislative Assembly today passed a motion of thanks to former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and expressed support for new Premier Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

The motion was tabled by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali and seconded by Datuk Tan Chin Meng (BN-Bercham) before it was debated here.

Tajol Rosli said Dr Mahathir had left behind a priceless legacy for all Malaysians, which was mental strength and self confidence, to propel themselves, the race and the nation towards success.

He said the people of Perak were determined and pledged to continue fighting to achieve what Dr Mahathir had dreamed of, which was a sovereign nation and dignified race that could raise its development on par with other developed countries in the world.

Meanwhile, Tan said Dr Mahathir's biggest success was in igniting the spirit of unity among the people of various races as "without the spirit of unity and peace, we could not successfully achieve the level of prosperity which we enjoy now".

However, Ng Kor Ming (DAP-Pantai Remis) said although Dr Mahathir's contributions could not be denied and he deserved credit for Vision 2020 and the slogan Clean, Efficient and Trustworthy, "there are still weaknesses in his administration.

"Among these are several laws which should be repealed like the ISA (Internal Security Act), OSA (Official Secrets Act) and the University and University Colleges Act. Other things also should not happen, like corruption which is getting worse," he said when debating the motion.

Meanwhile, during the Question and Answer session, State Infrastructure and Public Facilities Committee chairman Datuk Ong Ka Chuan told the assembly that the State Government had asked Malaysia Airlines (MAS) to consider resuming their thrice-daily Kuala Lumpur-Ipoh service.

The suggestion was made via the Transport Ministry as after the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome outbreak, the flights were reduced to once a day from June, he said in reply to a question by Ng.

He said the State Government had also asked Air Asia to include Ipoh in its list of local flights, which was hoped to increase the number of visitors and investors to the state.

-- BERNAMA

KAY EMK