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ABDULLAH-POLICY

PM SAYS HE'LL CONTINUE WITH ALL GOOD POLICIES

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 10 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi says he will continue with all the good policies which had been formulated and implemented by previous leaders.

The country's national policies which had proven to be successful would continue to be core of various strategic efforts to bring Malaysia towards the pinnacle of success to attain Vision 2020, said Abdullah, who is also the finance minister, when he tabled Supply Bill (2004) at the Dewan Negara here today.

Abdullah became the country's fifth prime minister after taking over from Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Oct 31.

"I am aware that the responsibility of being at the helm of the country is heavy and most challenging. Thanks to Allah, I have been entrusted to lead a country which has achieved outstanding success. As such, we need to strive to bring the country towards greater and more noteworthy successes," he said in his 33-page speech.

However, Abdullah said this could not be achieved without the support, co-operation and close understanding of all parties involved, whether they were Members of Parliament, administrators, the private sector, workers and farmers -- in other words, all Malaysians.

"Again, I would like to express my aspiration in that the people should work, not for me, but with me to further develop the country," he stressed.

The prime minister said in order to achieve continued success, the rakyat must be prepared to meet all kinds of challenges and be brave enough to make strategic shifts to ensure not only the success and prosperity achieved so far but also to increase the level of success and well-being of the nation.

"We must always act swiftly, efficiently and with great determination to realise the aspirations and attain the National Vision. We must also be prepared to sacrifice, set aside personal interests, be efficient always and trustworthy besides promoting harmony and tolerance to bring about a co-operative spirit and strengthen unity to increase the self-respect of the people and sovereignty of the country," he added.

Abdullah urged Malaysians from all walks of life to be determined and be prepared to pool their strengths towards nation building to ensure greater success, prosperity, peace and well-being. -- BERNAMA

MKO WNZ SHY