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Abdullah-Stimulus

ABDULLAH BRIEFS DR MAHATHIR ON PROPOSED STIMULUS PACKAGE

CYBERJAYA, May 5 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has briefed Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the draft of the stimulus package to be announced by the government soon.

Abdullah said that he met Dr Mahathir today when he started work after a two-month leave.

"Of course, the Prime Minister will have the opportunity to give his own ideas to say what he wants to say. The draft is only a draft but the stimulus package is entirely up to our leader," he told a media conference after presenting the Malaysian best employer award here.

Asked when the stimulus package will be announced, he said: "Please be patient. I'm not saying that it's going to be this week. Let the Prime Minister read the draft first."

On the invitation by the International Monetary Fund to Malaysia and several other countries to be included in discussions on Iraq's reconstruction, Abdullah said it showed that the IMF recognised Malaysia's ability.

Besides Malaysia, the IMF has invited the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Japan, Russia and China to discuss ways to rebuild Iraq following the United States-led invasion of the country.

"They recognised our ability (and) our experience in developing the country," Abdullah said.

The award was presented to the joint winners -- the Ritz-Carlton Kuala Lumpur and Dumex (M) Sdn Bhd.

The award was handed out following the Best Employers in Asia 2003 study conducted by global human resources outsourcing and consulting firm Hewitt Associates, in partnership with the Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (Asli), the Malaysian Employers Federation and the Edge business newspaper.

A total of 305 organisations and 84,183 employees participated in the Best Employers in Asia 2003 study, the second Pan Asian best employers study where research participants originated from eight markets in the region, namely, China, Hong Kong, South Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand.

In Malaysia, 43 companies and 12,211 employees participated.

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