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Parliament-Appreciation (Samy)

SWITCH TO INDUSTRIALIZATION IS MAHATHIR'S GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 3 (Bernama) -- Transforming Malaysia's economy, from that of agriculture-based to industrialization, is the greatest achievement by former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Dewan Rakyat was told today.

Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said Malaysia's rapid economic progress and stable politics was due to the leadership of Dr Mahathir.

Samy Vellu, who is the MP for Sungai Siput, said this when seconding the motion to thank Dr Mahathir, moved by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi in the Dewan Rakyat here today.

"Dr Mahathir has successfully ensured that the Barisan Nasional (BN) continues to govern the country after each general election.

"He has placed Malaysia on the world map and made our country a model which is admired by many countries, including the developed nations," said Samy Vellu who is also the MIC president.

Samy Vellu said Dr Mahathir has also managed to change the mindset of Malaysians to be more proactive.

He said Dr Mahathir was not only a hero to the people and nation, but also a hero to the Third World and the world now recognised him as a dynamic leader, he said.

"Today, the world knows Dr Mahathir as a prime minister who managed to deal with various domestic and international crisis. He is known as an "economics expert" after successfully dealing with the economic and currency crisis of 1998," he said.

Samy Vellu said Dr Mahathir would always be remembered and made a model by people from all walks of life in the efforts to achieve development and progress for the race and nation.

He urged Malaysians to emulate Dr Mahathir's spirit as his struggles have achieved peace and progress in politics and economy respectively for the country.

He said the people and nation were fortunate and grateful to Dr Mahathir for leaving a worthy successor, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as prime minister.

Samy Vellu said the people would continue to enjoy peace and progress under the stewardship of the new prime minister.

All will give their full support to Abdullah in leading Malaysia, similar to what has been accorded to Dr Mahathir all this while, said Samy Vellu.

-- BERNAMA

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