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Abdullah-Victory

ABDULLAH PLEDGES A GOVERNMENT TO TAKE MALAYSIA TOWARDS EXCELLENCE

KUALA LUMPUR, March 22 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, grateful for the Barisan Nasional's resounding victory in the 11th general election, pledged to form a government that will take Malaysia towards excellence, glory and distinction.

"Indeed, this huge success is most significant for us...it proves the acceptance and support of the people for the Barisan Nasional," he said when addressing party supporters after the BN won its 146th seat, marking a two-thirds majority, at 1.46 am.

It was telecast live from the Putra World Trade Centre here.

Abdullah, who is leading the coalition in a general election after assuming office four months ago, said that he would ensure that the BN candidates elected by the rakyat would perform their duties well.

This is in line with the ethics and performance index to be applied for elected representatives as announced during the election campaign.

Expressing his gratitude that the BN has secured a two-thirds majority, the Prime Minister said that it reflected the people's acknowledgement of the BN's capability to develop the country and to ensure it remains peaceful, prosperous and secure for all.

This had been proven by the various successes which had been achieved by the BN government under the previous leadership including Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad who had ensured that the handing over of power was conducted peacefully, he said.

Abdullah said that the handing over of power which was carried out in a smooth manner which was acceptable to the people had enabled him to propose several measures to be undertaken by his administration.

Among the measures taken included eradication of corruption, enhancement of the quality of public service, prudent economic management and the development of the workforce who were knowledgeable and competitive.

"These are the measures that have allowed our party and our government

to be more experienced but capable to forge ahead with dynamism," said Abdullah, who retained his Kepala Batas seat which he held since 1978.

It was due to this confidence that he had announced the dissolution of parliament to pave way for the election, he said.

"(The result of) this election proves that the people have accepted and supported our programmes and endorsed our manifesto, towards achieving excellence, glory and distinction for Malaysia," said Abdullah, who was accompanied by his wife, Datin Seri Endon Mahmood.

The Prime Minister was also happy that the young voters had come out to vote and given their support to the BN, a coalition of 14 component parties representing the various races in the country.

"They (young voters) know that they are the country's future workforce...they know that if they are depended upon to play a vital role in the future as a generation who are competitive to develop the nation, they have now indicated that they are with us," he said.

Besides placing on record his thanks for the party machinery and supporters, he also accorded recognition to the Election Commission and the police who had carried out their task well to enable the people to go out to cast their votes in a peaceful situation.

-- BERNAMA  
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