

01 MAR 2004

Abdullah-Officers

MALAYSIA OWES ITS CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT TO GOVT OFFICERS- PM

ALOR STAR, March 1 (Bernama) -- Malaysia owes its continued development and success to government officers who are the main asset in ensuring that the nation realised its vision, the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today.

All the country's resources and sophisticated equipment would be meaningless if government officers did not use them to the fullest to develop the country, he said.

"I do not want a situation where we have first class infrastructure but third class mentality," he said when addressing state and Federal officers here.

The Prime Minister said good policies could not be implemented effectively if the human factor in the system was inefficient and not receptive to change as required by the changes to existing facilities.

"There has to be a change in the mindset, attitude and way of working so that we can achieve even greater and manifold excellence and successes," he said.

Abdullah said his main task after taking over the leadership of the country from Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad was to manage the successes that had been passed on to him well and realise the country's vision and bequeath it to the succeeding generation.

The Prime Minister said that even though he was holding the top position in the government, but as a person wishing to work, he had to be part of the team and not just shout out orders from the outside.

"As part of the team, every member should have a role and duties which

he should discharge in a spirit of cooperation and comradeship."

"I should be a team player, sweat it out, be overcome by weariness but must remain with the team to ensure success is achieved," he said.

The Prime Minister said his philosophy was easy to accept by all, that is that a leader installed by the people should work with the people

and

the people on their part should cooperate with the government.

Abdullah said even though his approach was slightly different from that

of Dr Mahathir, the objective was the same that is shouldering the responsibility of managing the country with a view to achieving outstanding success.

"I cannot manage like Dr Mahathir managed, however policies will have

to be continued and the 2020 vision must be realised," he said.

Abdullah also said Malaysia being an Islamic country it was the obligation of its Islamic leader to be fair to all races irrespective of their religion when making decisions.

"I am the Prime Minister of all Malaysians, all people have their

rights...we have to be fair to all," he said.

-- BERNAMA

SN MAN AAM