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Motion of thanks to Dr Mahathir passed

P. Sharmini

THE 10th Negri Sembilan State Legislative Assembly passed a special motion of thanks to former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the beginning of its Budget session yesterday.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohd Isa Abdul Samad (BN-Linggi), who tabled the special motion, said in Dr Mahathir's 22 years as Prime Minister, the State had enjoyed tremendous development.

"The country needs no introduction, it has become famous and known the world over, thanks to the efforts of Dr Mahathir," he said.

"He did not want the people to suffer, or to be painted in a negative light; he wanted us to do well and be the best we can be."

Earlier, Yang di-Pertuan Besar Tuanku Ja'afar Tuanku Abdul Rahman, in his opening speech, also thanked Dr Mahathir for his many deeds and contributions to the country and the State.

He also welcomed Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as the fifth Prime Minister.

Isa said the many policies under Dr Mahathir's leadership, such as the Look East and privatisation policies, have reaped many benefits.

He urged the public and private sectors to continue working together to ensure these policies remained fruitful.

Isa also cited the two major financial crises during the time of Dr Mahathir's leadership, namely the recession from 1984 to 1989, and the 1997 currency crisis.

He lauded Dr Mahathir's unorthodox measures in overcoming the crises.

"Tun Dr Mahathir is an exemplary leader who has been able to assess situations and come up with unique solutions."

The motion was seconded by Lukut Assemblyman Datuk Dr Yeow Chai Thiam and Jeram Padang Assemblyman Datuk T. Rajagopal.