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Spotlight on Pak Lah in Chinese dailies

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi continued to be the centre of attention following his motion of thanks to Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

The Nanyang Siang Pau in its commentary 'Abdullah's first and correct step' praised him for addressing the dilemmas and challenges faced by Malaysians. Relating its observation to Malaysia's overall ranking in the Global Competitiveness Index where the country still ranked outside the top 20, the commentary said Abdullah was spot on in pointing out areas that needed improvement to create a more competitive society.

It also supported his determination in combating corruption.

Offering a suggestion on matters concerning international conflict management, Oriental Daily News yesterday urged the Government to play a more active role in peacekeeping missions via its engagement with key international organisations like the United Nations and International Red Cross.

The daily also suggested the establishment of a Peace Institute to provide training of Peace Corps, medical personnel and volunteers for Malaysia to contribute comprehensively to the peace missions.

China Press also joined the chorus of opinions by appealing to the Prime Minister to constructively respond to education issues affecting the Chinese community, including increasing demand for Chinese primary schools in Chinese-concentrated areas.

Sin Chew Daily, in its editorial on Monday, published a letter lamenting the lack of effort by the Government and the community in solving problems faced by temporary teachers in Chinese primary schools.