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PM: We are not a failed administration

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SEBERANG JAYA: Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi yesterday said his administration over the past four years could not be called a failed one.

The prime minister said many successes had been recorded and the government would continue working for the people.

"The past four years that I have led the country was not a time of failure.

"We have achieved much success. It is not like we have been sleeping and not working," he said.

Abdullah admitted there had been problems but the government had always overcome them although some may take a longer

time to deal with.

He said the government had managed to face challenges because it was close to the people.

"We are not deaf. We listen to the problems of the people.

"This close co-operation has enabled us to carry out many programmes successfully," he said, adding the government would ensure it fulfilled the promises made in the Barisan Nasional manifesto for the general election.

Abdullah said this in his speech at the Wisma TNB here, which houses the North Eastern Regional Control Centre (NERCC).

The NERCC is a control centre used by TNB for its power distribution to Penang, Perak, Kedah,

Perlis, Kelantan, Pahang and Terengganu.

Earlier in his speech, Abdullah said there was much interest among foreign investors in Malaysia, with the southern economic corridor reaping the greatest inflow of funds as it was the earliest to be launched.

At a speaking engagement on Sunday night, Abdullah said decisions reached in the BN cabinet were based on consensus to take into account the interests of all communities.

No major party dominated the decision-making and every party leader representing his community would participate, he said.

"Whether it be religious or

racial issues, I ask for each cabinet member's views to ensure we obtain a consensus.

"There may be lengthy meetings and the discussions will continue if we cannot reach a decision on a particular matter."

"There is no such thing as the big parties bullying representatives from the smaller parties," he said at a dinner with the Chinese community at the Chee Wee Khor Moral Upliftment Hall in Berapit, near Permatang Pauh here.

Urging the people of Penang to vote for the future, Abdullah said it would be a loss to the Indian and Chinese communities should they end up under-represented in the state executive council.