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You are not alone, Adenan tells Najib

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KUCHING: Chief Minister Tan Sri Adenan Satem yesterday pledged his and the state's support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, taking a swipe at former premier Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad in the process.

He said Najib was the only prime minister to visit Sarawak frequently and never came empty-handed.

"None of the former prime ministers have done what he has for us. He is always concerned about what Sarawak needs, including all the small things.

"Even the gentleman who was the prime minister for 23 years failed to do this. You know who I mean," he said in reference to Dr Mahathir.

Adenan said Sarawak's support for Najib would never waver.

Addressing Najib, he said: "It is

easy for people to support you when you are up but not when you are down. We will always support you.

"Look around... you are not alone," Adenan said to cheers from the more than 3,000 people at a dinner held in conjunction with the Gawai festivities here yesterday.

"I'm saying this because it is the right thing to do.

"We are grateful for what you have done for Sarawak, especially the Pan-Borneo Highway. So, don't resign and stick to your job. You are the right man."

Adenan said he was confident that the 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) issue would be resolved as soon as possible.

"It's an issue which must be resolved and I know he (Najib) is on his way (to solving it).

"Let's give him some time."

In his speech later, Najib said he was touched by the support pledged by Adenan.

"I would like to thank the chief minister for his frank but strong support that is without reservation or conditions. He has lent his support through thick and thin, not only when things were fine.

"Sometimes, when things become a bit patchy, you get left behind and you feel alone. But I know I am not alone with the support of Sarawak's leaders.

"Someone told me recently that everyone wants to be with you when you are travelling in a limousine. However, not many want to be with you when you are riding a bus. With that said, I know leaders in Sarawak will be with me on that bus."