

**Pahang Sultan Confident PM's Approach Will Bring Prosperity To People, Country
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PEKAN, Oct 24 (Bernama) -- The Sultan of Pahang, Sultan Ahmad Shah, is confident that the approach and philosophy introduced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak will bring prosperity to the people and country.

The Sultan said the concept of '1Malaysia: People First, Performance Now', and the Government Transformation Programme, Economic Transformation Programme, Political Transformation Programme and New Economic Model implementation in managing the country would bring benefits to the people.

"I believe and am confident that the philosophy and approach are good for the people and country...I pray that the prime minister's aspirations in managing and developing the country will be achieved."

Sultan Ahmad Shah said this at the investiture ceremony in conjunction with his 81st birthday at Istana Abu Bakar, here, today.

Also present were the Sultanah of Pahang Sultanah Kalsom, Tengku Mahkota of Pahang Tengku Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah and Tengku Puan Pahang Tunku Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah, the prime minister and his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, and Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob.

The Sultan said the 2012 Budget was also in line with the approach taken and would benefit all groups.

He hoped the budget could also tackle the problem of rising cost of living and help the low-income group cope with their daily living.

The Sultan also hoped for prevailing peace, political stability and good racial and inter-religious relations in the country, particularly in Pahang.

"I am happy to see the people live in harmony and unity, and Islam flourishing with the steps taken in tune with current global developments, while the non-Muslims are free to practise their own religion in peace.

At the ceremony, 66 people were conferred state awards with Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Seri Chor Chee Heung who received the Sri Sultan Ahmad Shah Pahang (SSAP) award which carries the title "Datuk Seri", heading the list of recipients.

United States ambassador to Malaysia Paul W. Jones who received the Honorary darjah Sri Indera Mahkota Pahang (SIMP) which carries the title "Datuk", when met after the ceremony, said he felt humbled by the conferment of the award.

Jones who was clad in complete Baju Melayu, said it also reflected the good relations between Malaysia and the US.

"This is my first time wearing the baju Melayu and I love it...I was allowed to wear a suit

but I chose to wear baju Melayu," he said.

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