

BN leaders support Pak Lah's policy direction

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MCA president Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting

"The MCA welcomes the advice of the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister to delegates at the general assembly that they must take note of the sensitivities of others.

We also support the PM's stand in fighting corruption and improve the public delivery system.

All races must be given opportunities to participate in economic development and nation building.

The MCA wishes to express that Government economic policies must benefit all communities. No one should be deprived.

Barisan Nasional component parties will continue maintaining a very good and strong relationship for racial harmony and stability in the country.

We will like to see Umno strong

and to have unity among the races."

Gerakan president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik

"Pak Lah has shown consistency in the policies he first announced when he took over as Prime Minister.

With him as Barisan chairman, we will follow the 12 fundamentals mentioned in his speech and not just talk about it."

MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu

"Pak Lah's speech will inspire Malaysians. It contains advice for the people to unite and respect each other's religions. In my mind PM is on the right track."

Wanita Umno chief Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz

"I regard the policy speech as the

report card on his work over the last three years. And I give him a very high score."

Parti Pesaka Bumiputra Bersatu vice-president Datuk Effendi Norwawi

"The most striking aspect of the speech was the transformation of the economy from being labour-intensive to one that is knowledge-based.

The issue of bumiputra equity should not just be about numbers but the reality of a huge disparity in living standards between the urban and rural areas."

Umno Youth deputy chief Khairy Jamaluddin

"There is nothing else the people could ask for from Abdullah as the Prime Minister and president of Umno because every doubt and

question on his leadership has been answered. I think he has answered a lot of critics today."

Information Minister Datuk Seri Zainuddin Maidin

"It's clear that Pak Lah knows how useful the media can be when given the freedom to expose abuses and issues like corruption. He sees the press as one of the cornerstones of a democratic society."

Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Mohd Shafie Apdal

"One of the main thrusts of the speech was the emphasis on freedom not only for the people but the media.

But it is important to note that this freedom is not without limits, especially given our bonds in this multi-racial society."

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar

"As to the social contract, Malaysia is a sensitive country because there are people of different religions, races and culture.

We want integration, not assimilation and in integration, there has to be understanding and tolerance among each other."

Party veteran and Umno disciplinary board chairman Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen Tengku Ismail

"Party members must report (to the board) if they know or encounter money politics.

Heed Pak Lah's advice about corruption. There are ways to protect the complainants if they sincerely want to report the matter and not use the board as a mechanism to undermine the political careers of leaders they deem their rivals."