

02 FEB 1999

Abdullah-Mahathir

ABDULLAH SCOFFS AT TALK THAT DR M IS POWER CRAZY

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 2 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said tonight it is totally untrue that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is power crazy and one who does not listen to advice.

He said in many situations including at the weekly Cabinet meetings, Dr Mahathir listens patiently to views and ideas expressed by ministers.

In fact, Dr Mahathir had rejected an amendment tabled to the Cabinet by the Attorney-General giving the Prime Minister absolute powers during the constitutional crisis to clip the powers of the Malay Rulers.

Abdullah said: "Dr Mahathir said I don't want. This is not the power I want."

Abdullah, who is also Home Minister, was speaking in a special interview with New Straits Times Group Editor-in-Chief Datuk A.Kadir Jasin aired live over RTM's TV1 tonight.

In recounting his experience as Foreign Minister, Abdullah said Dr Mahathir earned the respect of his foreign counterparts who were amazed with his humility to listen and exchange views with them without any barriers despite being the Prime Minister and they being Foreign Ministers.

Abdullah also said Dr Mahathir's active involvement in international issues had not made his task difficult as Foreign Minister but instead facilitated him in carrying out his duties smoothly.

-- BERNAMA

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