

08 JUL 1999

Abdullah-Putrajaya

DEVELOPMENT OF PUTRAJAYA IS NOT WASTAGE- ABDULLAH

PULAU PINANG, July 8 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi said today the development of Putrajaya was not a wastage as it represented an investment for the future.

He said the development of the new Federal Administrative Capital would act as a nucleus for the growth of the surrounding areas such as Sepang, Dengkil, Seremban and Melaka.

Speaking to reporters after chairing the Penang Umno Liaison Committee meeting here, he said Putrajaya apart from being the administrative capital would also involve the development of a commercial centre and new settlements.

He said the government had made careful planning when developing Cyberjaya and Putrajaya as the new seat of government to replace Kuala Lumpur which was congested.

The development of the new capital would certainly benefit the people, he added.

He said the value of the land in the area which was bought for RM7 per square feet had now gone up many times and indirectly brought benefits to the people.

Abdullah said Putrajaya was also part of the Multimedia Super Corridor which would have many high technology and IT facilities.

He said the new capital was not just for the government of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as it would also serve future governments of the country.

He said this when asked to comment on the statement by PAS President Datuk Fadzil Noor that his party would auction Putrajaya if it came to power.

Abdullah said PAS was not farsighted and was more inclined towards smallscale planning.

He also chaired the Penang Bumiputera Participation Steering Committee which discussed enhancing the state's tourist industry in line with the wishes of the National Economic Action Council (NEAC).

He said the Umno Liaison Committee discussed preparations for the General Election such as the ceramah schedules.

-- BERNAMA

ZU AA AAM