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Abdullah-Administration

GOV'T NOT WORRIED ABOUT FACING THE PEOPLE, SAYS ABDULLAH

JITRA, Nov 22 (Bernama) -- The government is not worried about facing the people in the 10th general election because it has an outstanding administration and development record, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Amad Badawi said today.

"We are not worried about facing the people for the 10th time and we leave it to the people to determine the new government," he said at a meeting with government officers from Kubang Pasu district, here.

He said the allegations hurled against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad were not true.

Dr Mahathir practised collective and responsible decision-making through consensus and was not a dictator as claimed by the opposition, he said.

The prime minister was also very patient and was prepared to listen to the views of others, he said.

Abdullah said the prime minister never said "I want this or I want that" and instead gave others a chance to give their views before making a decision.

He said: "I've known Dr Mahathir for so long. I know the way he makes decisions and his mannerisms."

"If Dr Mahathir holds his chin and starts looking left and right, it means that he is bored with the views because they are not constructive.

"But if he sits up straight and takes out his small book, it means that he is interested to hear the constructive opinion given," he said.

Abdullah said the government existed on the people's aspirations and trust and as such, government officers were the catalyst to speed up the implementation of programmes.

-- BERNAMA

JM/HT JK