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`Code sufficient to counter money politics'

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - There is no need for an addition to Umno's code of ethics on money politics and abuse of power in the run-up to the party's May elections, Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today.

Abdullah, who is carrying out the duties of party deputy president, said this was because the code was sufficient to counter money politics and encompassed all involved in the elections.

He said the code also covered agents of contenders.

"There is no need for any addition. It is enough for now. If we experience new matters in the coming party elections then we will make the necessary changes," said Abdullah, who is also chairman of the party's management and disciplinary committee.

The Deputy Prime Minister was speaking to reporters after representing Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the opening of the "Asean Business Summit 2000" at a hotel here.

Abdullah was asked to comment on calls by some Umno leaders for the party's supreme council to draw up more specific guidelines for candidates' agents and delegates to the party's general assembly.

He said the code had a lot to do with money politics and listed offences by candidates, their agents as well as delegates.

Abdullah also said the management and disciplinary committee had not received any complaint about contravention of the code.

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