

Dollah: I've no problem being Number Two

DATUK Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said he is absolutely loyal to the Umno president and has no problem being Number Two to Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"There is no dispute over this," he told newsmen after opening the Umno Youth and Wanita general assemblies yesterday.

He said he was also happy in his capacity as the Deputy Prime Minister.

"Dr Mahathir will continue to lead the party and be Prime Minister," he said when responding to a reporter's question.

Asked about his prayer for the Prime Minister's well-being during his keynote address at the joint opening of the two assemblies, Abdullah said: "We are Muslims and pray for everybody, including for leaders of the country."

A reporter had questioned if the prayer meant there were criticisms from the grassroots against the party chief.

"All leaders face some form of criticism, one way or another," Abdullah said.

On money politics, he said it would take a long time to weed out the problem but the party would continue to give attention to it.