

Pak Lah: Don't instigate leaders

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UMNO members have been warned not to pit its leaders against one another as resorting to loose talk and rumours will destroy the party.

Deputy president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the party's leadership had forged a strong working relationship to ensure the party machinery worked effectively.

"I want to remind all members against trying to disrupt the good relations among party leaders," he said, adding that it would cause the party to be on the losing end and destroyed.

Winding up debates at the end of the Umno general assembly here, the Deputy Prime Minister said Umno leaders practised "collective" responsibility in carrying out their duties.

Abdullah, who chairs the

Umno management committee, said panel members had worked well together in ensuring Barisan Nasional victories in the Likas, Indera Kayangan and Ketari by-elections after the defeat in Lunas.

He advised party members in Terengganu and Kelantan to help strengthen the party on their home grounds to topple the two PAS-led state governments in the next general election.

Abdullah, who is Home Minister, told delegates that firm action would be taken against those who do not respect the country's laws.

He said *ceramahs* by the opposition were proving to be an additional burden to the police.

"Actions by the opposition parties, especially PAS, have reached a stage which chal-

lenges the Government's tolerance.

"Those who do not respect the laws will face the consequences," he added.

He said the Government would be firm in acting against those involved in militant groups such as the KMM.

Abdullah, reiterating his call for a change in mindset of the Malays, spoke of the book *Revolusi Mental* (Mental Revolution) published in 1971 and launched by then Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak Hussein.

He said Razak, in his foreword, had said that Malaysia wanted to see a progressive Malay community and this could be achieved through a mental revolution in both the social and economic fields.

Abdullah said the setting up of matriculation centres and Mara Junior Science

Colleges in the early days had helped in the creation of bumiputra scientists and technologists.

On the party's new wing, Puteri Umno, Abdullah congratulated the members and advised them to work hard to meet the aspiration and goals of the party.

On the issue of family values, he said Umno Youth and Puteri members, as young or future parents, should strike a balance between family, work and politics to ensure their families were happy.

He said a model family was that of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali who, despite their hectic schedules, were able to bring up and educate seven children who had succeeded in various fields.