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Abdullah: Our fair policies paid off

BAGAN DATOH, Fri. - The fair and just policies implemented by the Government to develop the country and promote peace among the many races is the winning formula which has made Malaysia an exemplary leader in peace and stability.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said this was one of the reasons why none of the races had opposed the Government just because they were not satisfied with the policies implemented.

At the same time he said the Government also took preventive measures to nip extremism and militancy in the bud.

"We have to take such measures including enforcing the Internal Security Act. If we wait for things to happen, it will be too late as there will be bloodshed and other casualties," he told reporters after opening the Bagan Datoh Umno division delegates' meeting here tonight.

Abdullah, who is Umno Deputy President, said Pas' provocative ceramah would not be a trend as the Government has taken necessary action including enforcing a ban on ceramah.

He also said the people supported the move and that was translated in the recent Ketari and Indera Kayangan by-elections where Barisan Nasional won with thumping majorities.

He said the Malays who had in the last general election supported the Opposition had now reverted to BN after realising that it is the only coalition which could bring prosperity to the people and the country.

Earlier in his speech, Abdullah said foreigners were now in awe of Malaysia because of its ability to develop the country and fight terrorism.

He said they also had the deepest respect for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for being able to turn his ideas into reality.

Later Abdullah opened the Bagan Datoh Umno building in Hutan Melintang and attended a Majlis Pemimpin Bersama Rakyat.

Also present was Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali.

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