

DPM: PAS will not capture Kedah

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23 JUL 2003

ALOR STAR: Barisan Nasional will not let PAS capture Kedah in the general election, said Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

The Deputy Prime Minister said he believed voters would be more confident with Barisan ruling the state as the coalition had established an experienced government and brought much development to the state.

"I am sure voters would be able to assess the ability of the Government in

ruling the state," he told reporters after a lunch with Kedah Barisan leaders here yesterday.

He was commenting on statements by PAS leaders that the party had a good chance to capture Kedah.

Abdullah said PAS was making such statements because it intended to capture the state.

He said Barisan would, during its activities such as *ceramahs*, continue to remind and convince voters that it was more prepared, experienced and able to establish a new government which

was even more dynamic.

Earlier, Abdullah pledged to continue with youth development programmes to ensure that youths were able to sustain the country's development agenda. He said youths, being the inheritors of the leadership, should be sufficiently prepared in every aspect to face future challenges.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was a good example of how such traits enabled a leader to overcome big challenges such as the 1997 financial crisis.