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ABDULLAH-BUDGET

BUDGET 2005 WILL TOUCH ON MANAGING DEFICIT, SAYS ABDULLAH

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 4 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said that the Budget 2005 to be tabled in Parliament on Sept 10 will touch on the importance of managing the deficit.

"We have to talk about the importance of managing the deficit and to be prudent," he said.

The Budget would also incorporate aspects on agriculture, new sources of growth and wealth, and new sources of additional income.

"You can be sure we would talk about agriculture (including bio-technology), new sources of growth, new sources of wealth, new sources of additional income," Abdullah, who is also Finance Minister, told reporters when asked on the details of the Budget.

He however declined to elaborate further on the Budget presentation, which would be his first, after taking the helm of the country in October last year from Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The Prime Minister was speaking to reporters after delivering a keynote address at the international conference on 'Muslims and Islam in the 21st Century: Image and Reality', at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here.

-- BERNAMA

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