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PM bent on erasing culture of corruption

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I READ with great interest the transition of power from Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as Prime Minister.

The Western countries, especially Australia, welcomed the new Prime Minister even though they expect our foreign policy to remain the same, at least in the short term.

Locally, Pak Lah has made a few important decisions in his first two weeks in power.

He has announced that Malaysians should continue to acquire knowledge to be able to excel and compete against the world. We are living in the information age and every day, we are bombarded with data from various sources.

Our ability to churn the data into information will depend on our intellectual capacity. And education is the key to that ability.

In addition, Pak Lah also announced that corruption and red tape will be reduced, if not eliminated. It is an accepted view that the public sector is a breeding ground for corruption.

The problem is that it is acceptable to be corrupt, as everybody does it. It portrays a wrong message.

Now Pak Lah has challenged us to prove that these can be changed.

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