

Keep your promises to people, PM tells reps

• **By Audrey Dermawan**
audreymd@nst.com.my

GEORGE TOWN: Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi wants assemblymen to be committed to serving the people and keeping their promises.

The role of an assemblyman is arduous. There are times when they receive praise from the people and times when they are criticised.

"That is the challenge they have to face," the Prime Minister said at a dinner hosted by the state gov-

ernment in conjunction with the gathering of wives of assemblymen here last night.

"But what is important is that in all that you do, you must be honest. The political career you have chosen is a gift from God."

Abdullah's speech was read by his deputy, Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

Also present at the event was Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon.

Also present were Association of Wives of Ministers and Deputy Ministers (Bakti) acting president

Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, who is Najib's wife, and event organising chairman Puan Sri Chui Kah Peng, who is Koh's wife.

Abdullah said assemblymen could never run away from their problems.

"But I am sure they can reduce the burden with the help and support of their wives," he said, recognising the roles played by wives, particularly in social and welfare work, in their respective constituencies.

"I know it is a great challenge to be wives of assemblymen. Some-

times, you have to deal with heavy issues, including politics as well as hear complaints and grouses from the people."

Abdullah expressed hope that the gathering of Wives of Assemblymen, an idea mooted by his late wife Datin Seri Endon Mahmood, would be an annual event.

"I am sure my late wife would have been very happy if she was with us here today and saw for herself how the gathering had met her vision and mission of bringing together all the wives of assemblymen," he said.