

Pak Lah: Be progressive

Refrain from wallowing in self-pity, Malays urged

KUALA TERENGGANU: Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has called on the Malays to refrain from wallowing in self-pity and take advantage of the opportunities to progress instead.

Indulging in self-pity, subjecting oneself to grief and isolating oneself from development would only cause the Malays to be left out, the Prime Minister said.

"We have to migrate from a less favourable situation to a more favourable one, from a depressive state of mind to one that sees the opportunities that abound," he said at the presentation of offer letters for affordable apartments in Pulau Duyong here yesterday.

Terengganu Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh was also present at the function.

Thirty people received offer letters for completed apartments; 120 are planned in the area.

Each apartment is estimated to cost almost RM100,000, but is sold to the people at only RM40,000.

Abdullah said he did not want urban development achieved thus far to be seen as having isolated the Malays.

"The Malays must change in terms of attitude and mindset; they should not see only obstacles and restrictions but also opportunities," he added.

Referring to the development in Pulau Duyong, Abdullah said any development on the island should not isolate the local population.

Every development in a locality must involve the local population and not cause the people to "flee" from the area, he added. - Bernama



SEA BOUNTY: Abdullah (left) and Idris receiving a gift of fresh fish from a fisherman in Kampung Pulau Duyong Kuala Terengganu, yesterday.