

PM: People are behind the Govt

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NANNING: Differences between the present leadership and Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad will not affect the people's support for the Government, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said.

The Prime Minister said the people supported the Government because it was able to deliver what they wanted.

"They know what they are looking and waiting for, and that is what they want me to concentrate on. This is what I am doing at the moment with my colleagues," he said.

Abdullah was asked during a press conference yesterday, after the conclusion of the commemorative summit on the 15th anniversary of the Asean-China dialogue, whether the criticisms by Dr Mahathir of his Government would alienate voters.

He said there were some people who were concerned about the situation.

However, he said, many wanted him to concentrate on the 9th Malaysia Plan.

When asked to comment on calls for the coming Umno supreme council to talk about Dr Mahathir's role in the party, Abdullah said he was open to discussing anything that was important to the party.

He said he would meet party secretary-general Datuk Seri Radzi Sheikh Ahmad to be briefed on the agenda for the meeting.

Asked if the supreme council would discuss the option of ejecting Dr Mahathir from the party, he said: "I am not sure of that kind of details."

When a reporter reminded Abdullah that yesterday was his third anniversary as Prime Minister, he said: "Three years is still not enough."

He said there was much more to be done. "It is not that we are lying idle. There are some projects under the 8th Malaysia Plan which have yet to be implemented."