

PM returns from Perth to a rousing welcome

SUBANG: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi returned home last night from Australia and was greeted by over 3,000 people cheering him as he stepped off the plane.

Cabinet members, Deputy Ministers, Chief Ministers, Menteri Besar, government officials and others gave the Prime Minister a rousing welcome on his return

from a two-week holiday with his family in Perth.

His plane touched down at the Royal Malaysian Air Force base in Subang at 9pm.

Banners which read "Long Live Pak Lah", "We Support Pak Lah" and "We Love Pak Lah" were seen among the crowd who chanted "*Hidup Pak Lah*" (Long Live Pak Lah) until he disembarked.

The crowd had started converging at the airbase from 6pm.

Addressing the crowd later, Abdullah said his throat was better, his voice stronger and he was in good health.

He had a minor sinus surgery during his leave in Australia.

The Prime Minister said he would announce details of projects and implementation mecha-

nisms of the Ninth Malaysia Plan on Tuesday.

He added that he was happy that the Cabinet functioned well under the leadership of Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak during his absence.

He said the Government would continue with its programmes to benefit the people, including attaining developed status by 2020.