

PM: Grab opportunity

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Improve yourselves, youths told

KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi urged Malaysian youths to constantly improve themselves, as they will make up a "gigantic workforce" by the year 2020.

Saying they will inherit the country and her present success, the Prime Minister told them they have the opportunities that youngsters in his time did not have.

"Malaysia is a land of opportunity for young people.

"Grab the opportunity so that you can improve yourself.

"When the time comes, you can contribute to your country," he told a crowd of some 21,000 people at the launch of the second phase of the Rakan Muda movement here yesterday.

He added that the way to do this was by equipping themselves with knowledge.

"Study hard in school and be

active in the organisations available in school," he said.

Abdullah also told the youths they have the option to further their studies in universities, both locally and abroad, adding that such an option was only available to a limited few 50 years ago.

"After that, be ready to contribute to the country in whatever field you choose, and push the country forward for another 50 years," he said.

The launching of the second phase aims to further strengthen the implementation of Rakan Muda programmes, especially in terms of methodology.

It also aims to get community leaders at all levels and localities to be involved and strengthen cooperation between the Youth and Sports Ministry and other government agencies as well as the private sector in implementing the programmes.