

Margin of victory clear sign of support for PM

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RAUB: The Barisan Nasional's ability to increase the majority by more than 100 per cent is a clear message that the people support Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's leadership.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said it was a very meaningful victory as it also showed the people's backing for

the BN and the government.

Speaking to reporters after the Batu Talam by-election result was announced here last night, he said the total votes received by BN candidate Abdul Aziz Mat Kham was also higher than that garnered in the 2004 general election.

He added that the high voter turnout proved that the people did

not heed the calls made by the opposition to boycott the election.

"We are also overwhelmed by the support we received from all races. This is important as there are claims that certain ethnic groups are opposing us," he said.

The result also indicated the people's support for their Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob,

he added.

Adnan said BN's victory would silence the opposition, which had no issues to bring forward except boycotting the by-election.

Wanita MCA chief Datuk Dr Ng Yen Yen said the support from the Chinese community was tremendous as about 80 per cent of them voted for the BN candidate.