

PM: Mocking Islam Hadhari a big mistake

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KEPALA BATAS: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said yesterday that attempts at mocking Islam Hadhari would come to nought.

He warned that it would be a big mistake for critics to continue making fun of the concept of progressive Islam as it had been accepted by a majority of the people.

"I know certain parties who do not like Islam Hadhari are going around ridiculing it. If they do so, that will be a big mistake," he said in his speech launching the national level Islam Hadhari Village programme at Dewan Millenium

here yesterday.

Also present were Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr Abdullah Md Zin.

Abdullah said efforts to promote Islam Hadhari were already showing results although there were still problems like drug abuse and crime in society.

"We acknowledge that there are still problems but we are working to solve them.

"Islam Hadhari is just one of the approaches we are taking," he said, adding that it would be good if everyone united to understand the true meaning of Islam Hadhari as it promoted universal values.

Speaking to reporters later, Ab-

dullah said there were certain parties who were "ridiculing something which I think is really good and which is already being accepted by a majority of the people".

Asked if political parties were involved, he said it could be that the people concerned did not like Islam Hadhari as it was contrary to their own political ideology.

Abdullah said the Hadhari principles would not cause friction among Muslims, and between Muslims and non-Muslims, but instead bring progress to the nation and ummah (community).

The prime minister said he had inculcated Islam Hadhari in various aspects of his administration, especially in the development of human capital.

Asked if Islam Hadhari had been discussed and accepted by his Cabinet members, Abdullah said that had been done up to the level of the Barisan Nasional supreme council and nobody objected.

He added that questions had been raised by those who wanted to know if Islam Hadhari would lead to religious conflict or become an obstacle to other religions.

"I explained it all to them and told them that we have no ulterior motive in promoting Islam Hadhari. I explained the same thing at a special seminar organised by the MCA at Bukit Tinggi, which was attended by its grassroots members right up to the party's supreme council members."