

30pc Bumiputera equity stays

NSF- 23/3/2007

THE 30 per cent Bumiputera equity target will not be abolished, the prime minister said.

Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the equity target was still needed to create an even distribution of wealth among the ethnic groups.

"The minimum 30 per cent equity for the Bumiputera by 2010 is an agenda which will ensure that development will be equally-distributed between the ethnicities and

regions in the country.

"At present, income and ownership of wealth among the ethnic groups is still unevenly distributed.

"The goal must be pushed until it is achieved," said Abdullah in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

In a written reply to Karpal Singh (DAP-Bukit Gelugor) on when the 30 per cent Bumiputera equity target would be abolished, Abdullah said sus-

tained development had been on the nation's agenda since the launch of the New Economic Policy.

"Applying the principles under the NEP, the government has been able to bring about harmony and co-operation among the various ethnic groups, thus creating stability and peace in the country. This will lead to closer ethnic integration, which will create a truly unified Malaysian public," Abdullah said.