



Abdullah hails Raja Muda as people's ruler

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LUMUT: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has praised Raja Muda Perak Raja Dr Nazrin Shah for declining to accept state-allocated funds for his wedding next Thursday.

He said Raja Nazrin was truly a people's ruler with the people's welfare at heart and was an exemplary leader for the people of Perak.

"Although born a royalty and having lived in the palace all his life, his heart is truly with the people. I can see that he cares about his rakyat and gives due atten-

tion to all his subjects and ensures development is evenly distributed."

Abdullah was commenting on a news report quoting *Bernama* which said Raja Nazrin had declined state-allocated funds for his three-day wedding ceremony. Instead he wanted the allocation to be spent on development projects to meet the needs of the people.

Raja Nazrin had also requested companies and individuals intending to buy advertisement space in newspapers on the occasion of his wedding to instead channel the funds to charity, such as welfare bodies, old folks' home, orphanages,

schools and places of worship.

Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali had also said that Raja Nazrin would bear all expenses incurred for the wedding.

Raja Nazrin will wed Zara Salim Davidson, 34, on May 17. The solemnisation ceremony will be held at the Istana Iskandariah in Bukit Chandan, Kuala Kangsar.

The bersanding ceremony will be held at the Balai Seri of the Istana Iskandariah on Saturday night, with the hosting of a feast for the people at the Arena Square in Kuala Kangsar.

