

# All groups gain from development, says PM

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia's successful economic development over the years has not been at the expense of any particular ethnic or social group, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said.

The prime minister said all segments of Malaysian society had enjoyed the fruits of economic progress in an atmosphere of peace, harmony and tolerance.

He credited the achievement to the past leaders' strategic and far-sighted economic development policies and conviction to be fair and just to all communities.

"It was not due to chance or luck," he said in a speech read by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak at the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry's dinner here last night.

Abdullah assured that the government would continue to look after the interests of all economic sectors and all segments of the Malaysian society when implementing the Ninth Malaysia Plan and the Third Industrial Master Plan.

He said that despite priorities accorded to certain areas under the two development plans, this did not mean they were the only sectors which would be addressed by policy-makers.

"Neither would they be developed at the expense of other areas of the economy," he said.

The prime minister said Malaysia had reached a point in its development path that required a new policy and implementation framework to be put in place.