

# Abdullah: Farmers need to change their mindset

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** It is pointless for the Government to provide funds for the agriculture sector if the farmers do not change their mindset and move forward, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said.

"The Government will always support those involved in the sector because we feel that agriculture can become a major revenue earner for the country," the Prime Minister said.

He said this in his speech during the opening of the Malaysian Agriculture, Horticulture and Agrotourism Show (Maha) 2006 at the Malaysian Agriculture Expo Park in Serdang near here yesterday.

Abdullah said the Government was injecting a lot of funds to enable this sector to move forward.

Later at a press conference, Abdullah gave an example where the agriculture sector could bring in lucrative income.

He said a US company had approached the Agriculture and Agro-based Industries Ministry to seek help in supplying 250,000 tonnes of ginger and turmeric.

"I have met the top officials of the company and they are very serious in getting the supply from Malaysia. I hope farmers here will take advantage of the situation," he said.

He said thousands of farmers could benefit from this and it was a golden opportunity for them to boost their income.

On Maha, Abdullah said this year's event had created a lot of interest with close to 1,000 booths.