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We will deliver in Penang, says Abdullah

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GEORGE TOWN: Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has pledged that all development projects for Penang would be completed as promised.

"What I have promised for the people of Penang will be delivered," said the prime minister at the federation of Chinese associations Hua Zong dinner in conjunction with the 50th Merdeka celebrations in Relau last night.

Also present were his wife, Datin Seri Jeanne Abdullah, Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy, Hua Zong president Tan Sri Lim Gait Tong and former Penang Chief Minister Tun Dr Lim Chong Eu.

"These include the second Penang bridge, the monorail project and the long-awaited Penang outer ring road project.



Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Tan Sri Lim Gait Tong raising hands together in solidarity at the Hua Zong's Chinese community dinner last night. With them are (from left) Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy, Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon and Datin Seri Jeanne Abdullah.

"We will work hard and deliver all that we have promised. I am determined that these projects will take place and be completed.

"All I ask for is for the people to be patient as the projects will take time to complete.

"Believe me, it is no easy task. I

can think of having the Northern Corridor and the Eastern Economic Region but these will not work without the help of the people, government departments and agencies."

Abdullah said the development plan contained in the Barisan National manifesto at the 2004 general election was not meant for a five-year period.

"It was planned for a 15-year programme which will eventually lead us to achieving our Vision 2020.

"I cannot possibly implement it within the four-year period of my premiership."

Abdullah, who also launched the book, *Pictorial History of the Chinese in Penang*, praised Hua Zong for leading the Chinese community towards helping the nation achieve progress and prosperity.