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Keep momentum going, in Terengganu, says PM

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KUALA BERANG: Terengganu will be developed more after the election as the government has proven its capability to deliver on the promises of Barisan Nasional.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who praised the leadership of Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh for getting things going, said the momentum must be kept moving.

"Taking into account the short period after the last general election (in 2004), what the government has achieved here is a record. It has made the rakyat happy."

"There is good support from the people and confidence in the government is growing. This is unlike the Pas administration where development was stalled," he said after the groundbreaking for a polytechnic in Kuala Jeneris here.

The polytechnic, he said, was yet another piece of evidence of the government's capability to deliver. "It's another dream of the people made real."

It'll be built on a 49.2ha site with an allocation of RM184 million

The polytechnic is part of the East Coast Economic Region initiatives to turn Terengganu into an education hub.

Abdullah was also happy to note that the approach towards creating a knowledgeable generation in Terengganu had begun to show with students able to recite the Quran at a young age

and speak Arabic, Mandarin and English.

"Terengganu is also a trendsetter. It is the home of the J-Qaf programme where Arabic and the Quran are taught and this is now adopted by all schools in the country.

"In 15 years or not more than 20 years, most students under the J-Qaf programme will be able to speak fluent Arabic. Terengganu is now no longer a follower but is ahead in certain fields."

On another matter, Abdullah reiterated his pledge yesterday that all grievances raised would be looked at and that all needs would be fulfilled.

"We will look after their needs, regardless of whether they are Indians, Chinese, Malays or other Malaysians.

"The government will never forget them and deny them the opportunities resulting from the progress that the country has achieved.

"We will create equal opportunities and provide quality facilities for all. We will always be fair and just."

He was asked to comment on the call by MIC that it wanted the government to give urgent attention to seven issues that had caused "uneasiness" among the Indian community.

On the MIC's requests, Abdullah said: "We are open and positive.

"We will take action on all genuine complaints. This has always been the underlying principle of the government all this while."