

DATE: 14/6 / 2008

Inventor seeks PM's help to register tractor

PASIR MAS: An enterprising inventor had the prime minister giving him full attention when he sought Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's help to register his invention.

CA Power Engineering owner Lim Chooi Aik, 53, from Alor Star, said his tractor could easily till idle padi land overgrown with *menerong* or wild grass.

"My tractor can till idle land efficiently compared with other tractors available in the market but I could not register it (with the Road Transport Department) due to many problems," he told the prime minister.

Abdullah, who had listened intently, turned to Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamad to help the man.

Abdullah was here to launch the national programme to increase the country's rice production

He said the target was to reach 86 per cent sufficiency in rice production by 2010, from 72 per cent currently.

To achieve this, he said farmers must adopt modern farming methods.

On the protest over fuel price hike in Kuala Lumpur yesterday, Abdullah reminded the people that the fuel was still heavily subsidised.

He said the government would continue to think of ways to help the needy. "I will announce them one by one."

He said the government was "seriously" considering a proposal by Barisan Nasional backbenchers to exempt or reduce income tax.



Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi asking the people in front to move away before driving a tractor when launching the national programme to increase the country's rice production in Pasir Mas yesterday.

NST- 14/6/2008