

# Income tax relief plan

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## PM: Details to be announced when Budget 2009 is tabled

**PASIR MAS:** The Government is considering proposals to give income tax relief to help the people cope with the spiralling cost of living following the fuel price increase.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said details of the matter would be announced during the tabling of the 2009 Budget on Aug 29.

"There will be several measures to be taken but it's better for me not to reveal them at the moment," he told reporters after launching the National Rice Production Enhancement Plan at Kampung Bendang Perangkap in Bunut Susu here.

The Barisan Nasional Backbenchers Club (BNBBC) forwarded the suggestion of tax relief at the 2009 Budget consultation session on Thursday.

Abdullah also said the government would announce more incentives, including the road tax rebate for eligible private vehicle owners.

"People who are unhappy would be inclined to express their dissatisfaction (through protests) but I wish to explain that the government will continue to find ways to reduce the impact of the oil price rise on the people.

"We understand this and know that it will incite anger. However, we are also considering what measures



**VIP farmer:** Abdullah waving to photographers while trying out a tractor after launching the National Rice Production Enhancement Plan in Pasir Mas yesterday.

to take.

"We are announcing them one at a time to help ease the burden," he said when commenting on the action by a group of people who had gathered without a permit in front of the Kampung Baru Mosque after Friday prayers.

Asked about statements by several Opposition leaders that they could reduce the fuel prices, Abdullah said the Opposition made many promises.

"During the last general election, they made all kinds of promises but until today they have not fulfilled

any. If they want to reduce fuel prices, let them provide the subsidy to reduce fuel prices in Selangor and Perak first."

Meanwhile the Kelantan Umno has pledged its loyalty to Abdullah as party president and prime minister.