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Be part of green revolution, Malaysians told

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PUTRAJAYA: Grow your own vegetables at home and be part of the country's green revolution, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Launching the Putrajaya Residents Bumi Hijau Campaign, here, yesterday, he said he was promoting the idea to create landscapes of edibles on unused vacant land, including homes.

The campaign, an extension of the Green Book programme laun-

ched in 2006, is to help Malaysians cut costs in view of the recent price hike for fuel and food.

Abdullah advised urban and rural folks to see the beauty and colour of edible plants and herbs and not just concentrate on ornamental plants at their homes.

He also urged them to identify idle land to local authorities so that these could be turned into vegetable plots and fruit orchards.

"It is better than to see vacant

land overgrown with weed or turned into illegal dumpsites," he told reporters after the launch of the campaign at Precint 9. It was also attended by Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Sidek Hassan and the mentris besar of Negri Sembilan and Malacca.

Abdullah asked Malaysian families to work on their land together

as a pastime and also as a good form of exercise.

He said idle vacant land could also be used to rear livestock and aquaculture, adding that seedlings and tips on planting vegetables and fruits could be obtained from the Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Ministry that had allocated RM15mil for the campaign.

Negri Sembilan and Malacca, he said, planned to start the green revolution in two weeks.