

THE STAR

DATE: 09/02/2008

PM: I work very hard

The Star - 9/2/2008

The people are foremost in my mind, says Abdullah

By K.KASTURI DEWI
and ANDREA FILMER
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

PENANG: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said he works very hard to carry out his responsibility to all Malaysians.

"Some of you can say that I'm not good, you can say whatever. But don't say that I don't work.

"I work very hard. I really mean it and you know it," he said to applause from those who attended the Chinese Assembly Hall's Chinese New Year open house yesterday.

He also urged Malaysians to make full use of opportunities available to do well in life and to serve the people.

"It is God's will that I become the Prime Minister of Malaysia and I am very conscious that I have to serve the people although I personally do not benefit even one bit because of this," he said.

He said that in fulfilling his responsibility he had to be fair to all.

"However, each of us has to strive towards the creation of a Malaysian community that is happy, prosperous, united, harmonious and respected.

"As Malaysians, no matter where we are and even though we are just a minority group, we should feel comfortable and happy when at-



BN machine: Abdullah taking a closer look at the Proton Perdana covered with BN logos and his pictures which was unveiled in Kepala Batas yesterday. It will be used in his parliamentary constituency during the polls.

tending a function," he said.

Later at a Chinese New Year dinner hosted by the Kepala Batas Gerakan and MCA divisions in Kepala Batas, Abdullah urged parents and teachers to help mould a younger generation that would uphold respect for each other,

according to Bernama.

The Prime Minister said children that although children were enrolled in schools of different mediums of instruction, they should unite with their peers in order to foster racial unity even when young.

"We must tell children that

Malays, Chinese, and Indians must live together and become friends, and respect one another," he added.

He said parents and teachers should remind children not to develop animosity against one another when they grow up because it could affect unity and harm the economy.