

Abdullah launches code of ethics for MPs

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KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi launched a code of ethics for government backbenchers yesterday, requiring them to declare their assets and provide excellent service to the people.

The Prime Minister said this was the first time elected representatives were required to declare the assets of their children, besides those of their spouses and their trustees, every two years.

The code of ethics, which also calls for MPs to preserve the integrity of the Government and nation, serves as a guideline for MPs to carry out their duties and responsibility toward Parliament, their constituents and the people.

It also stressed on the need for MPs to refrain from getting involved in any corrupt activities or misusing their power.

Dewan Rakyat Speaker Tun Mohamed Zahir Ismail and Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Samsuddin Othman were also present at the launch.

Abdullah told reporters later: "I have stressed the importance of the MPs adhering to the code of ethics. This will ensure quality service as well as serve as a reminder for them to refrain from unwanted activities which can smear their status as MPs."



MODEL LEADERS: Abdullah and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak browsing through a booklet on the code of ethics in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

He said disciplinary action would be taken against MPs who did not adhere to the code.

On the report cards, he said MPs were required to submit them to the Prime Minister's Department by end of next month.

"They must fill up the reports themselves and we will check to see if they are telling the truth," he said.

Earlier in his speech, Abdullah said elected representatives must uphold the sanctity of their position to fulfil the trust placed upon them.