

PM ready to roll out vision, walk the talk

NST-16/8/2006

■ **By Ravi Nambiar and Siti Nurbayah Nadzmi**
news@nst.com.my

JOHOR BARU: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is ready to roll out his "national vision" for the country.

He said he was now in "implementation mode" and wanted to realise plans spelt out under the Ninth Malaysia Plan (9MP).

"Before I was concentrating on planning for the Ninth Malaysia

Plan. I wanted to make sure the rakyat would accept the plans proposed.

"But now that the 9MP has been recognised and accepted by Malaysians, I have switched to implementation mode," he told reporters at a Press conference at the close of his two-day visit to Johor.

He said the people were now asking: "What is Pak Lah going to do? Is he going to walk the talk?"

He called on the rakyat to give

his administration their full support and work together to realise the 9MP and the goals set out under Vision 2020.

Asked about the South Johor Economic Region (SJER) master-plan, he said it was being finalised and the details would be announced soon.

"Be patient-lah... good things are coming your way," he said.

Abdullah denied that SJER was all hype and no substance.

"I don't make empty promises.

I am committed to doing it. I am as serious about it as I was when planning for the 9MP. I have a duty to ensure that the plans are implemented successfully," he said.

The SJER development plan, he added, must be carefully mapped out and implemented to extract maximum benefit.

"The economic promise for south Johor is very promising. We want this to succeed. This is important," he said.