

9MP is for all, says Ong

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PUTRAJAYA: The Chinese business community has expressed support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's efforts to improve the public delivery system after they met him for two hours yesterday.

MCA president Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting said the business community told the Prime Minister that they shared his sentiment on the importance of enhancing the delivery system to increase Malaysia's effectiveness and competitiveness.

They also told Abdullah that such an improvement was also what the Malaysian public wanted and they were willing to play their role to ensure it succeeded.

"We agree that improving the delivery system will make the administration more effective. This will certainly boost Malaysia's position in the eyes

of investors," he said.

Ong was speaking to reporters after leading a delegation comprising representatives from the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry Malaysia, the Federation of Chinese Association and the Seven Major Clans Association for a meeting with the Prime Minister at his residence, Seri Perdana, yesterday.

Also present were MCA deputy president Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy and vice-presidents Datuk Seri Dr Fong Chan Onn and Datuk Dr Chua Soi Lek.

The MCA president described the meeting as a "normal one" where the Prime Minister had briefed them on programmes under the Ninth Malaysia Plan (9MP) and at the same time, the Chinese community offered their views.

They gave feedback on how all the communities could participate to make development

programmes under the 9MP more effective and successful, he added.

"I found the two-hour meeting to be successful and there was positive interaction between the Prime Minister and those representing the Chinese community.

"With the explanation given, the government policies and implementation of programmes are now clear to the Chinese community," he said, adding that Abdullah had wanted to convene this meeting for quite some time.

Ong stressed that there were no complains, grouses or concerns aired during the meeting but views on how to ensure the 9MP could be carried out smoothly.

"The Chinese community is also interested in the country's economic development and as representatives of the community at national level, they offered suggestions on how the programmes can be more successful," he said.



IMMEDIATE RESPONSE: Ong speaking to reporters at Putrajaya yesterday. With him are Seven Major Clans Association Coordination Committee chairman Datuk Ng Teck Fong (Ong's right), Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry Malaysia president Tan Sri William Cheng (behind Ong - in dark blue shirt) and Federation of Malaysian Chinese Association chairman Datuk Seri Lim Gait Tong (right)