

Abdullah: 9MP projects to start next month

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KUALA LUMPUR: The implementation of projects in the 9th Malaysia Plan (9MP) will start next month, said Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Reiterating that the Government has the funds to implement the plan, the Prime Minister said the Government was not lying when it tabled the plan in Parliament.

"We know when we presented the plan, we have the capability, the funds to implement it," he said at the Malaysian Malay Chamber of Commerce Entrepreneur Award yesterday.

"It (the plan) is not for gimmick purposes and we are not lying about our financial capability because lying will not take us (the Government) anywhere."

Abdullah said the 9MP was not an empty promise by the Government.

"We are determined to implement it and I am very determined to see it through," he said.

Abdullah urged Malay busi-

nessmen to make themselves a force to be reckoned with to help realise the Government's aspiration.

He said they had made tremendous progress since the launch of the New Economic Policy, and some had emerged as scientists and technocrats.

If the two forces were merged, it could give added strength to the nation, he said.

He asked Bumiputra businessmen to prepare themselves for the challenges of globalisation and trade liberalisation.

Abdullah presented six awards to entrepreneurs for excellence in various fields.

The President Award went to developer Tan Sri Mustapha Kamal Abu Bakar of MK Land Bhd.

Others who received awards were Datuk Rameli Musa (for innovation), Datuk Dr Zainuddin Wazir (originality), Amran Ahmed (young entrepreneur), Rozita Ibrahim (woman entrepreneur) and Noraini Ahmad (creativity).



WELL DONE: Abdullah presenting the President Award to Mustapha Kamal in Kuala Lumpur last night as the chamber's president Datuk Seri Abdul Rahman Maidin looks on.