

Carry on with your work, PM

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MALAYSIANS were looking forward to a cordial meeting between Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and hoping their relationship would improve.

Alas, they were sad that the former premier repeated his criticisms with "stronger venom" (to quote the prime minister) and continued with his criticisms in the media.

However honourable his intentions, the way the criticisms were delivered was not befitting a person of his stature.

The accusation of creating a police state (which is unfounded) and the attacks on the integrity of our premier and the charitable deeds of his late wife were uncalled for.

These attacks and accusations could cast doubts on the character of our Prime Minister, among the people within the country and without, and may have an adverse effect on the image of our country.

Certainly, the former premier, as a citizen of a democratic country, has a right to criticise. It is hoped that, in future, with his vast wealth of experience, knowledge and expertise, he would give constructive criticisms for the benefit of our country.

Hopefully, Abdullah will not feel threatened by the negative criticisms and comments. His calm and quiet demeanour exudes inner strength and power which have enabled him to respond to the criticisms in a noble and dignified manner.

I take my hat off to our Prime Minister. He has a job to do to implement the Ninth Malaysia Plan.

Take courage Mr Prime Minister, you have our mandate and full support. We trust that you will walk the talk and achieve your goals for the country with a firm hand.

TAN LEE HUAN,
Bukit Mertajam.